Just CrossStitch 2007 Special Christmas Issue

Christmas Ornaments

Celebrate Christmas with 75 Favorite Designers

Christmas Ornaments 2007
$6.99US $8.99CAN
11>
7 25274 02807 8

快乐坊
www.hi-joy.com

Christmas Ornaments 2007

Editor's Note
6
2007 Christmas Ornaments Collection
10

Angel Stitchin 30
Bizzi Creations, Inc. 31
Blue Ribbon Designs 32
Brightneedle 33
Brittercup Designs 34
Carriage House Samplings 35
Cat's Whiskers Design Studio, The 36
Charland Designs, Inc. 37
Charlette's Collectibles 38
Charlotte's Web Needlework 39
Cherished Stitches 40
Cindy Valentine Designs 41
Country Cottage Needleworks 42
Crossed Wing Collection 43
Cross-Eyed Cricket, Inc. 44
DebBee's Designs 45
Designs by Cathy Jean 46
Dragon Dreams, Inc. 47
Elizabeth's Designs 48
Erica Michaels Designs 48
Fancy Work 49
Follow the Leader NeedleArt Designs 51
Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches 52
Full Circle Designs 54
Gentle Pursuit Designs 55
Glory Bee 56
Hands to Work 57
HeartStrings/The Artists Collection 58
Heritage Series 59
Homespun Elegance Ltd. 60
Imaginating, Inc. 61
Jeannette Douglas Designs 63
Jemini Designs 64
Julia Lucas Designs 65
Kitty & Me Designs 66
Knotted Tree NeedleArt 67
La-D-Da 68
Ladybug Lane Designs 68
Legacy Designs 69
Little By Little Design Co. 71
Little House Needleworks 72
Lizzie*Kate, Inc. 73
Loopylou Designs 74
M Designs 75
Medeiros Needlecraft Designs 76
Midsummer Night Designs 77
Milady's Needle 78
monsterbubbles 79
Mosey 'N Me 80
Moss Creek Designs, Inc. 81
NeedlePlay Needlework Designs 83
Nordic Needle 84
Prairie Moon 85
Prairie Schooler, The 86
Praiseworthy Stitches 87
Raise the Roof Designs 88
Rosewood Manor 89
SamSarah Design Studio 90
Scandinavian Stitches 91
Serendipity Designs 91
Shepherd's Bush Printworks 93
Sisters and Best Friends 94
Still Stitching with Susan, LLC 94
Stitchworks, Ltd., The 96
Sue Hillis Designs, Inc. 97
Sunflower Seed, The 98
Sweetheart Tree™, The 99
Thistle Threads 100
Twisted Oaks Designs 101
Ursula Michael Designs 102
Val's Stuff 102
Victoria Sampler, The 103
Water's Edge 106
Wee Works 107
Workbasket, The 108

Advertiser Index
114

Where to Find It
110

Stitch Illustrations
116

Instructions

Twisted Cording
70

Tassel Making
73

General Finishing
74

Pillow Ornament Finishing
101

Flat Ornament Finishing
107

Ornament Finishing
107

1
hope your stocking is filled with love and dreams
2
2007
3
ABCDEFGHI
JKLMNOPQR
STUVWXYZ
CHRISTMAS
2007
4
2007
5
CHRISTMAS
2007
6
Noel
2007
7

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time.

—Laura Ingalls Wilder

1. **Angel Stitchin**
   Love and Dreams
2. **Legacy Designs**
   Quaker Darning Sock 2007
3. **Hands to Work**
   Christmas Holly
4. **Designs by Cathy Jean**
   Fill with Love
5. **Thistle Threads**
   Christmas Wishes Stocking
6. **The Prairie Schooler, Inc.**
   Cranberry Christmas
7. **The Sweetheart Tree™**
   Noel Christmas Bellpull
8. **Julia Lucas Designs**
   Deck the Halls

1
noel
2
2007
4
5
6

Christmas Ornaments Collection

My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?

— Bob Hope

1. **M Designs**
   Noel in the Tree
2. **Nordic Needle**
   Nordic Star Ornament
3. **Moss Creek Designs**
   Dalahäst: The Goodwill Horse
4. **Ursula Michaels Designs**
   Joyful Wreath
5. **NeedlePlay Needlework Designs**
   My Holiday Wreath
6. **Lizzie*Kate**
   Joy
7. **Scandinavian Stitches**
   Christmas Tree

1
2
ABC
07
4
5
7

Christmas Ornaments Collection

And is it true? And is it true,
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,
A Baby in an in ox's stall?
The Maker of the stars and sea
Became a Child on earth for me?

—Sir John Betjeman

1. **DebBee's Designs**
   Bargello Star Ornament
2. **Brittercup Designs**
   Poinsettia
3. **Cherished Stitches**
   A Colonial Christmas Ornament
4. **Homespun Elegance, Ltd.**
   Heart of Joy
5. **The Workbasket**
   Christmas House
6. **Milady's Needle**
   Christmas Blessings
7. **La-D-Da**
   Yule Flower

1
2
4
5
6
7
Be Merry

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Here comes Santa Claus,
here comes Santa Claus,
Right down Santa Claus Lane
Vixen and Blitzen and all his reindeer
Pullin' on the reins!
Bells are ringin', children singin'
All is merry and bright.
Hang your stockings
and say your prayers
'Cause Santa Claus comes tonight!

—"Here Comes Santa Claus"

1. **Heartstrings/ The Artists Collection**
   Symbols of Christms
2. **Knotted Tree NeedleArt**
   Santa
3. **Dragon Dreams, Inc.**
   Checking It Twice
4. **Twisted Oaks Designs**
   The Santa in the Moon
5. **Cindy Valentine Designs**
   Better Watch Out!
6. **Mosey 'n Me**
   Just Before the Trip
7. **Raise the Roof Designs**
   Be Merry
8. **Carriage House Samplings**
   Toy Shop Sign
9. **Water's Edge**
   Santa and Rudolph

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
2007
PEACE
Christmas
2007

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

—Calvin Coolidge

1. **Erica Michaels Designs**
   Quiet Night
2. **Jeannette Douglas Designs**
   Christmas Tree 2007
3. **The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio**
   Joyeux Noel
4. **Charland Designs, Inc.**
   Tipsy Tree
5. **Follow the Leader NeedleArt Designs**
   O Christmas Tree Scissors Case and Fob
6. **Sue Hillis Design**
   Spool Ornament
7. **Fancy Work**
   O Tannenbaum
8. **Praiseworthy Stitches**
   Peace
9. **Blue Ribbon Designs**
   A Wish for Hope and Peace
10. **Brightneedle**
    2007 Merry Xmas Pinkeep

Their sweet
Peace

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days; that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth; that can transport the sailor and the traveller, thousands of miles away, back to his own fire-side and his quiet home!

—Charles Dickens
The Pickwick Papers

1. **Shepherd's Bush Printworks**
   Sweet Baby
2. **Cross-Eyed Cricket Inc.**
   "Keeping Watch" Mitten
3. **Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches**
   Happy Christmas
4. **Country Cottage Needleworks**
   Peace
5. **Little by Little Design Co.**
   Merry and Bright

1
2
joyeux noël
3
Wacky Holiday
5
6

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Come on weatherman,
Give us a forecast snowy white.
Can't you hear the prayers
Of every childlike heart tonight?
Rockies are calling,
Denver snow falling,
Somebody said it's four feet deep.
But it doesn't matter,
Give me the laughter;
I'm gonna choose to keep.

—"Tennessee Christmas"

1. **Medeiros Needlecraft Designs**
   Gingerbread Cottage
2. **monsterbubbles**
   Paris
3. **Imaginating, Inc.**
   Wacky Holiday
4. **SamSarah Design Studio**
   Winter Love
5. **Full Circle Designs**
   The Decorator
6. **Charlotte's Web Needlework**
   My Mum's Doll
7. **Sisters and Best Friends**
   All Flakes Welcome

1
2
2007
4
Peace
5
A merry
6
MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO
YOU
7

Christmas Ornaments Collection

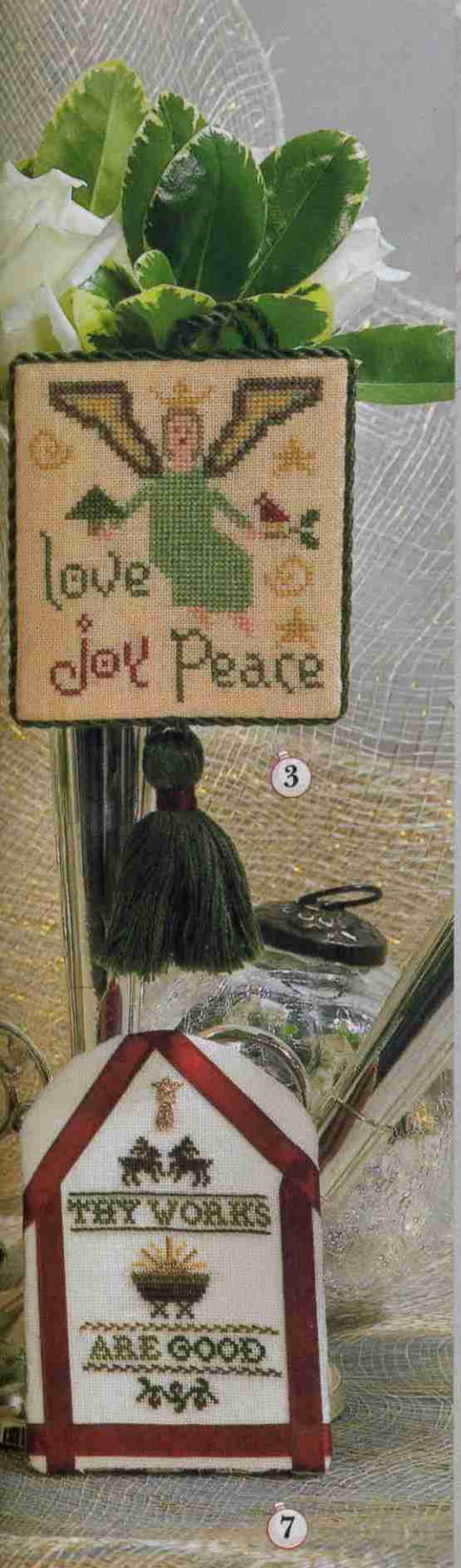
And what happened then? Well, in Whoville they say that the Grinch's small heart grew three sizes that day. And then the true meaning of Christmas came through, and the Grinch found the strength of ten Grinches plus two.

—Dr. Suess

How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

1. **The Stitchworks™**
   Jingles the Penguin
2. **Kitty & Me Designs**
   Christmas Blackwork Cat
3. **Glory Bee**
   Rudy
4. **Bizzi Creations, Inc.**
   Peace Ornament
5. **Val's Stuff**
   A Merry Kitty Klaus
6. **Elizabeth's Designs**
   A Dog's Christmas
7. **Crossed Wing Collection**
   Red Bird
8. **Jemini Designs**
   Woodlands Woodpecker

1
2
A star, A star,
dancing in
the night,
With
A tail As
big As A kite.
5
4
Joy
6



Christmas Ornaments Collection

But peaceful was the night
Wherein the Prince of Light
His reign of peace upon the earth began:
The winds with wonder whist,
Smoothly the waters kist,
Whispering new joys to the mild Ocean,
Who now hath quite forgot to rave,
While birds of calm sit brooding
on the charmed wave.

– John Milton
"On the Morning of Christ's Nativity"

1. **Serendipity Designs**
   Ring in the Joy
2. **Wee Works**
   Golden Angel
3. **Midsummer Night Designs**
   Christmas Angel
4. **The Sunflower Seed**
   Christmas Poinsettia
5. **Charlette's Collectibles**
   Hope Angel
6. **Prairie Moon**
   Joy
7. **Gentle Pursuit Designs**
   Thy Works Are Good

1
2
3
4
5

2007

Christmas Ornaments Collection

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

1. **Rosewood Manor**
   Christmas Lace Snowflake
2. **Little House Needleworks**
   Snow Bunnies
3. **Loopy Lou Designs**
   Christmas Joy
4. **The Victoria Sampler**
   Sugar and Lace Ornament
5. **Ladybug Lane Designs**
   Most Wonderful Time
6. **Heritage Series**
   Snowflake 2007
7. **Still Stitching with Susan, LL**
   A Candle to Light the Way

Angel Stitchin

Jan Fate

Chocolate Peanut-Butter Oatmeal No-Bake Cookies

½ c. margarine
2 c. sugar
3 Tbsp. cocoa mix
½ c. milk
1 tsp. vanilla extract
½ c. peanut butter
3 c. quick-cooking oats

Line one baking sheet with waxed paper; set aside.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine margarine, sugar, cocoa mix, and milk. Bring mixture to a boil, stirring frequently. Remove from heat and add vanilla and peanut butter. Mix well. Stir in oats.

Working quickly, drop mixture by teaspoonfuls onto prepared cooking sheet. Cool. Mixture will harden as it cools.

LOVE AND DREAMS

Designed by Jan Fate of Angel Stitchin

DMC® Anchor®

■	310	403	black

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	1279	(500)	holly
X	2264	(816)	garnet

Mill Hill® Treasures

★	15001	metal snowflake

Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads

●	1279	holly

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 64H x 63W
Design size: 4" x 3⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work straight stitch for X on heart, using two strands 310/403. Work straight stitch where heavy lines appear on toe and heel, using one strand 310/403.

Work lazy-daisy stitch for hanger, using two strands 2264.

Attach beads, using one strand 2264 and a half cross stitch.

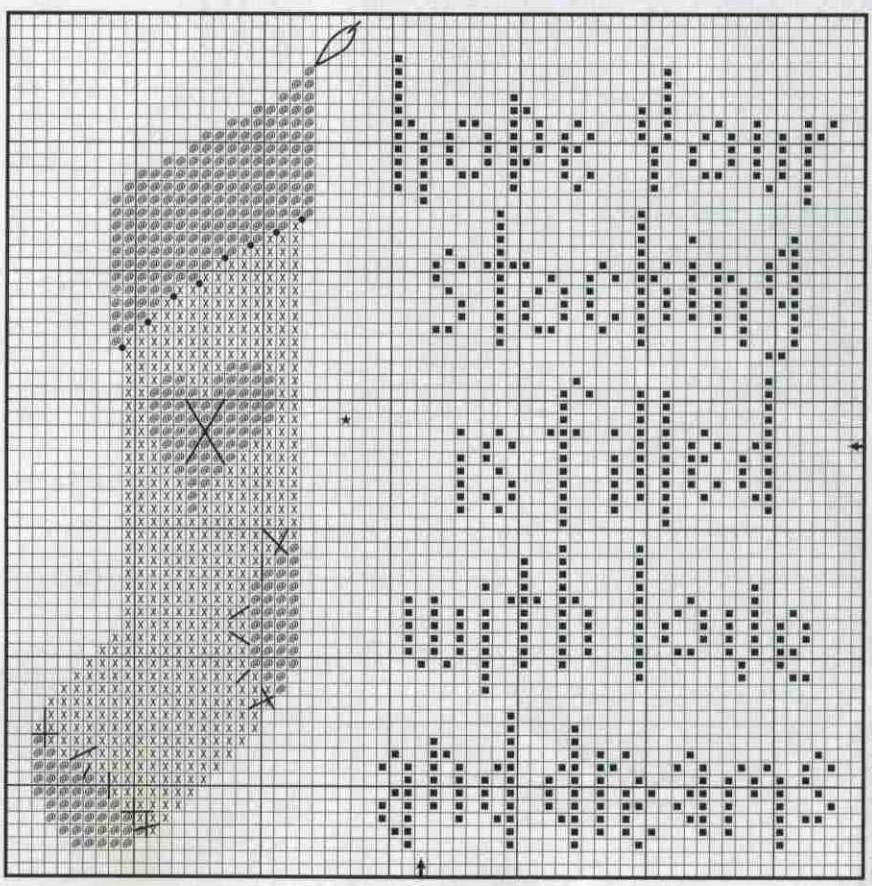
Attach treasure, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Photo is on page 10.

Finishing instructions: Finish according to manufacturer's instructions, using plaid pillow with buttons from Stitcher's Station.

Stitched by Cris McLaughlin

Angel Stitchin
Post Office Box 345
Irving, IL 62051
e-mail: *angelstitchin@aol.com*
Web site: *www.angelstitchin.com*



Love and Dreams

©2007 Angel Stitchin

Bizzi Creations, Inc.

Paula Munter

I remember as a child standing on a stool next to my mother spooning these cookies onto waxed paper during the Christmas season. I hope you can make fun memories with your families and friends making these!

No-Bake Cookies

2 c. sugar
1/2 c. natural unsweetened cocoa powder
1/2 c. milk
1/2 c. margarine
1/2 c. peanut butter
3 c. quick-cooking oatmeal

Line one baking sheet with waxed paper; set aside. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine sugar, cocoa, and milk, stirring well. Bring to a boil, boiling for one minute.

Add margarine and peanut butter; stir until melted. Remove from heat; add oatmeal and stir to combine.

Drop by spoonfuls onto prepared baking sheets.

Makes about 3 dozen.

Bizzi Creations, Inc.
1861 Brown Boulevard, Suite 217-625
Arlington, TX 76006
e-mail: *bizzicreations@att.net*
Web site: *www.bizzicreations.com*

Violarium

* French cross stitch charts, kits and magazines
* Designs by Isa Vautier, Tournicoton, SFV...
* Low shipping worldwide

www.violarium.com

PEACE ORNAMENT

Designed by Paula Munter of Bizzi Creations, Inc.

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

■	5540	boysenberry blue
◑	5510	persimmon
.	5555	oyster
*	5530	rosemary green
☆	002	gold

Kreinik® Cable

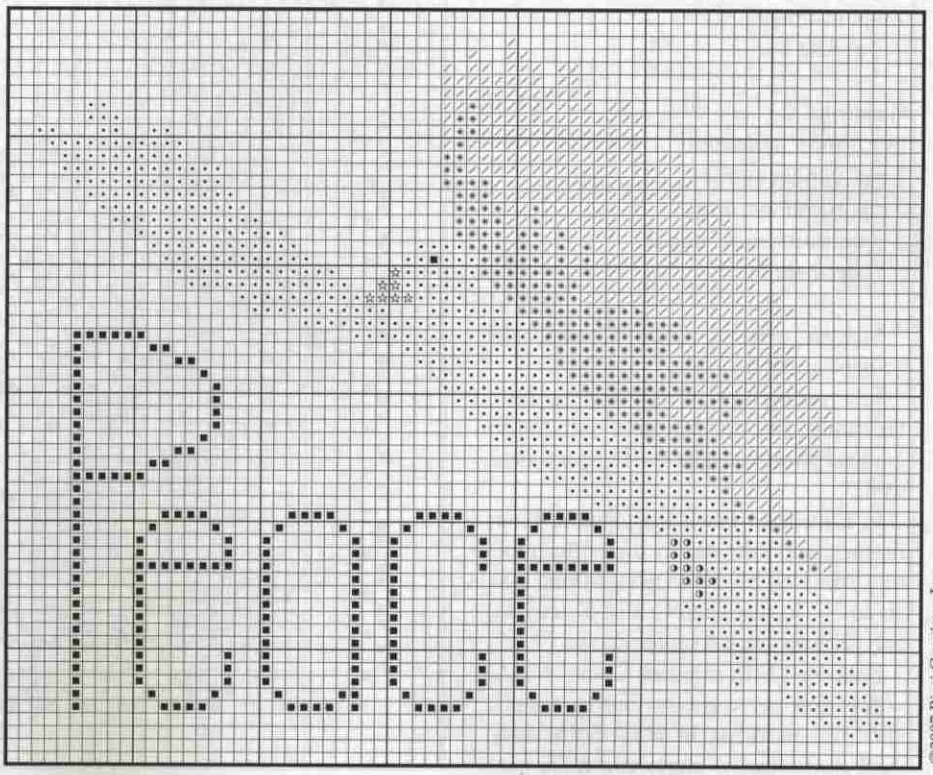
/	001P	silver

Fabric: 10" x 10" piece 32-count cattail brown linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 55H x 68W
Design size: 3 1/2" x 4 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of braid or cable.

Photo is on page 24.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Hanger was made using purchased 1/8"-diameter silk ribbon.



Peace Ornament

©2007 Bizzi Creations, Inc.

Blue Ribbon Designs

Belinda Karls-Nace

As a child, Christmas Eve at our house included two special traditions. My mother would always read us a story from the classic book *The Animals' Merry Christmas* by Kathryn Jackson and Richard Scarry. After that, it was time to leave cookies and eggnog for "Santa." We quickly learned that Santa's favorite cookies were Nutmeg Logs—he never left a crumb!

Nutmeg Logs

1 c. butter, softened
2 tsp. vanilla extract
2 tsp. rum flavoring
3/4 c. sugar
1 egg
3 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. nutmeg
1/4 tsp. salt

Frosting:
1/3 c. butter, softened
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 tsp. rum flavoring
2 c. confectioners' sugar
2 Tbsp. milk

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease two cookie sheets; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, cream together butter, vanilla, and rum flavoring until fluffy; gradually beat in sugar. Add egg and beat well.

In a medium bowl, sift together flour, nutmeg, and salt; add to the butter mixture. Mix well. Shape dough into long rolls about 1/2" in diameter. Cut in 3" lengths, and place on greased cookie sheets.

Bake for 12–15 minutes. Cool.

For frosting, combine butter, vanilla, and rum flavoring in a medium bowl. Add confectioners' sugar and milk; beat until smooth.

Frost cooled logs. Gently run a fork along frosted log to create "bark"; sprinkle lightly with nutmeg.

A WISH FOR HOPE AND PEACE

Designed by Belinda Karls-Nace of Blue Ribbon Designs

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	3860	(902)	crimson
○	1171	(3761)	dove
#	1230	(869)	Havana
■	1279	(500)	holly
@	2156	(505)	hunter

Fabric: Two 8" x 8" pieces 32-count café mocha Country French linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 63H x 57W
Design size: 4" x 3 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

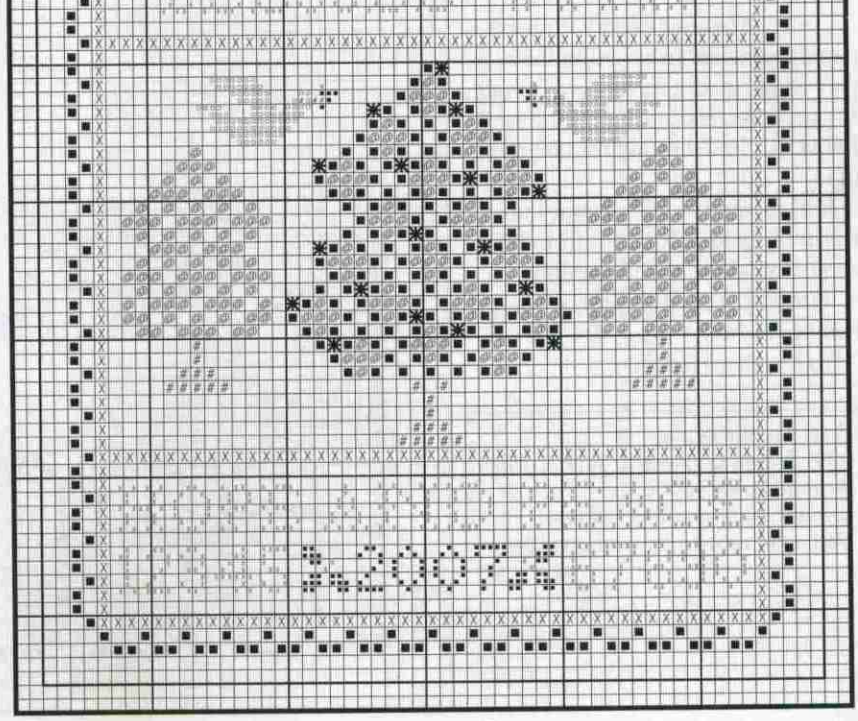
Backstitch border over three threads, using two strands 1279.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads where ✳ appears on tree, using one strand 3860.

Photo is on page 19.

Finishing instructions: Repeat backstitched border on a second piece of linen. Press stitched pieces from back, straightening as much as possible. Trim pieces to 1/4" from stitched border. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side. Place wrong sides of ornament together and lace together through backstitched border, using one strand 1279 and adding two Mill Hill® (#02020 Créme de Mint) beads with each lacing stitch. Twisted cording hanger was made using DMC® 902. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Blue Ribbon Designs
413 29th Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265
e-mail: *designer@blueribbondesigns.com*
Web site: *www.blueribbondesigns.com*



A Wish for Hope and Peace

©2002 Blue Ribbon Designs

Brightneedle

Ann Petit and
Liz Knudsen

One of our favorite design formats is the nine-patch, borrowed from a second passion—quilts. Liz loves traditional patterns in miniature, while Ann loves those more abstract in feel. We also adore antique sampler motifs, and we have used several—along with a few of our designs—in "Merry Xmas."

Yet another passion is all those wonderfully diverse alphabets found in old samplers, but we'll leave that for perhaps another time.

Chocolate Star Cake

½ c. shortening
1¼ c. sugar
1 egg, plus 2 yolks
2½ squares baking chocolate, melted
2 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking powder
1¼ c. buttermilk
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Seven-Minute Frosting:
1½ c. sugar
½ c. water
⅛ tsp. salt
2 egg whites
½ tsp. vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour two 9" cake pans; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat shortening with sugar until creamy. Add egg and egg yolks; beat until light and fluffy. Add melted chocolate.

In a medium bowl, sift together dry ingredients. Add to shortening mixture, alternating with buttermilk. Add vanilla and mix well.

Bake for 25 minutes until toothpick inserted into center of cake comes out clean. Cool on wire racks.

In the top of a double boiler over simmering water, combine sugar, water, salt, and egg whites. Beat with a handmixer for 7 minutes. Remove from simmering water; stir in vanilla. Beat until thick. Frost cake.

2007 MERRY XMAS PINKEEP

Designed by Ann Petit and Liz Knudsen of Brightneedle

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

ℒ	1193	(3013)	guacamole
◆	1224	(728)	amber
▲	1333	(221)	Lancaster red
■	2201	(936)	moss
X	2211	(831)	olive
○	2334	(210)	lilac
@	3850	(3802)	Williamsburg red
♥	3860	(902)	crimson

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 32-count antique white linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 55H x 55W
Design size: 1¾" x 1¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

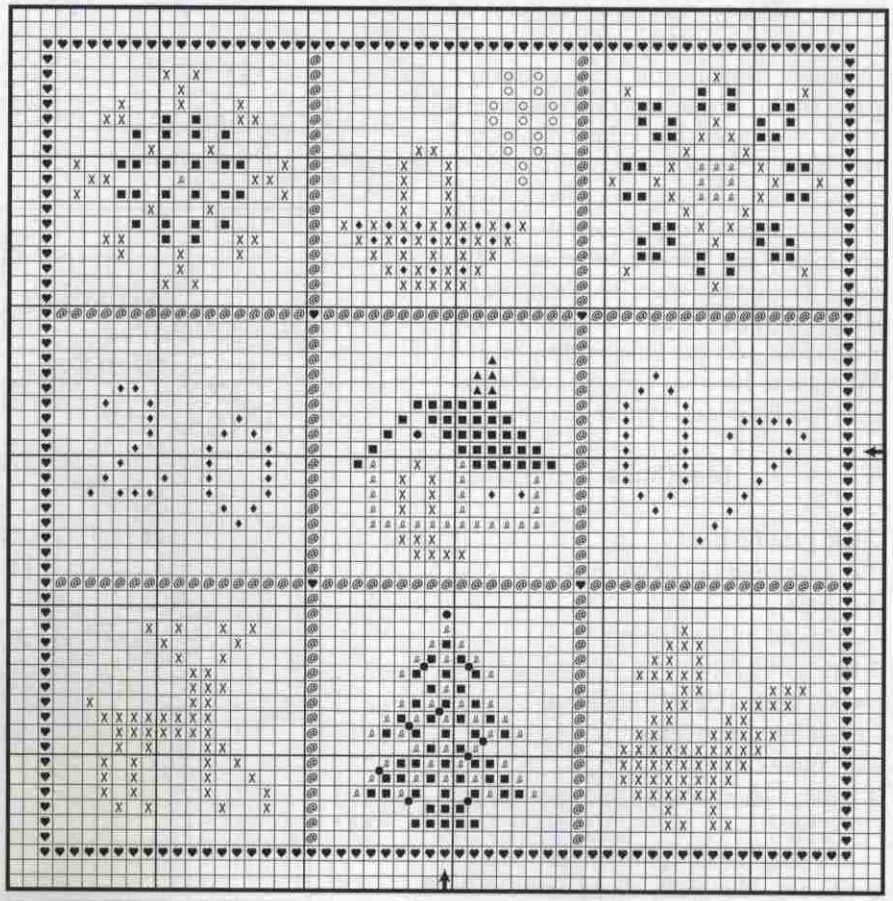
Work French knot where • appears, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once. **Note:** Vary floss colors when working French knots for ornaments on tree.

Photo is on page 19.

French-knot instructions

1224	tree top, ornaments on tree
1333	ornaments on tree, house peak
2334	ornaments on tree

Finishing materials and instructions:
3" x 3" piece coordinating decorator fabric
Two 2" x 2" pieces mounting board
Four 2" x 2" pieces quilt batting
8" length ¼"-wide coordinating silk ribbon
15" length 1"-wide coordinating silk ribbon
Five medium white-head pins
One large pearl-head pin
Assorted beads (optional)



2007 Merry Xmas Pinkeep

©2007 Brightneedle

Refer to ornament-finishing directions on page 107. Place stitched piece right-side down. Center one piece of quilt batting atop wrong side of stitched piece. Center one mounting board square atop batting. Fold seam allowances of stitched piece to back of mounting board and lightly glue in place. Repeat process for backing fabric piece and a second piece of batting.

Lightly glue remaining two pieces of batting to wrong sides of covered mounting board pieces. Allow to dry. Cover batting with a thin layer of glue and join sides together. Allow to dry.

Glue 1/4"-diameter ribbon along sides of ornament, covering wrapped edges and batting layers.

Tie a bow, using length of 1" ribbon. Center bow atop ornament and secure with large pearl-head pin, inserting pin through coordinating beads if desired. Insert white-head pins at even intervals around ornament.

Stitched by Jackie Ayers
Finished by Susan Fay of Frame of Mind

Brightneedle
457 Castle Street
Geneva, NY 14456
e-mail: *pettitam@fltg.net*
Web site: *www.brightneedle.com*

Brittercup Designs

Michelle M. Lash

Christmas will be different for our family this year. The time has come when my oldest daughter, Brittany (nine years old), does not believe in Santa. No need for us to hide the wrapping paper anymore. Last year, we forgot. Brittany said, "Mommy, Santa has the same wrapping paper we do." I replied that we must shop at the same place, but I don't think she believed me. It was fun trying to answer some of her questions about Santa, like "How is he going to get here if there isn't any snow?" and "How is he going to fit down the chimney or get into the house if all the doors are locked?" Brittany knows not to ruin it for her little brother, Brian. We want to have fun with tales of Santa with him for at least another year or so.

Meatballs

2 lbs. ground beef
1 c. seasoned bread crumbs
1 c. milk
1/4 c. dried minced onions
2 tsp. garlic salt
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1/4 c. olive oil
1 (26-oz.) jar spaghetti sauce

In a large bowl, combine first six ingredients. Mix well; shape into 1 1/2" balls. Roll meatballs in flour.

In a large frying pan or skillet, heat olive oil. Cook meatballs in olive oil until brown; drain. Add spaghetti sauce to pan and bring to a boil. Return meatballs to pan and reduce heat; cook for 25 minutes, or until meatballs are no longer pink inside.

POINSETTIA

Designed by Michelle Lash
of Brittercup Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♀	0420	(832)	gold leaf

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	7003	(320)	shutter green
■	7043	(902)	cinders

Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads

○	02012	royal plum

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 28-count Queen Anne's lace hand-dyed Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 53H x 47W
Design size: 3 3/4" x 3 3/8"

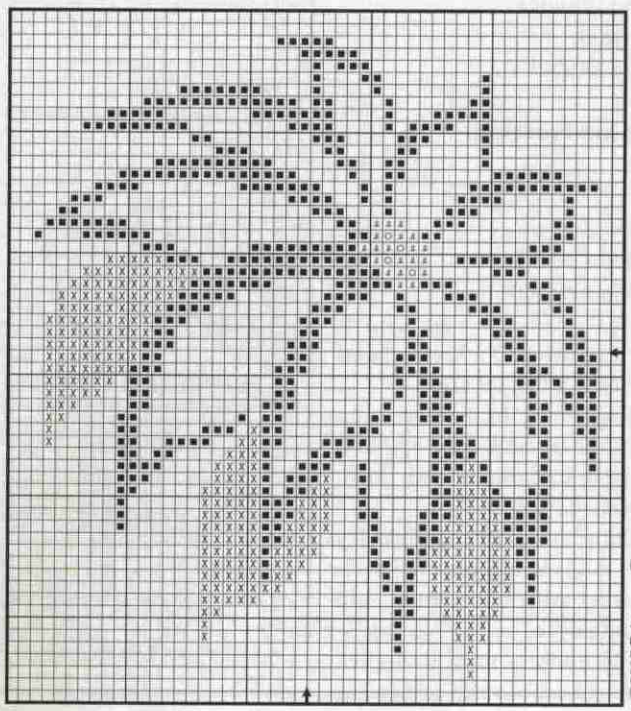
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Attach beads, using one strand 0420 and a half-cross stitch.

Photo is on page 14.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Ornament was finished using purchased tasseled trim and Weeks Dye Works™ (#2176 meadow) wool for backing.

Brittercup Designs
3788 Clermont Avenue
North Lawrence, OH 44666
e-mail: *michelle@brittercupdesigns.com*
Web site: *www.brittercupdesigns.com*



©2007 Brittercup Designs

Poinsettia

Carriage House Samplings

Kathy Barrick-Dieter

I'd like to send happy Christmas wishes to my very special stitching friends.

To Carol, who stitches for me like lightening and is always willing to share good advice.

To Lisa, who finishes my ornaments, stockings, and other treasures, and who is so very giving and accommodating.

To Nancy, who loves to stitch (perfectly) and showers me with happy e-mails, too.

To JoAnne, my sister-of-heart, who used to be my cousin.

To Shelley, who will drive four hours just to come to my birthday party.

To Cathy, who is always late but is definitely worth the wait.

To Tracy (aka Dot), who delights us all with her sheer presence.

I thank you all for your friendship and for adding such joy to my life. May everyone have the happiest Christmas ever!

Carriage House Samplings
500 Hanover Road
York, PA 17408
e-mail: *kbdieter@aol.com*
Web site:
www.carriagehousesamplings.com

TOY SHOP SIGN

Designed by Kathy Barrick-Dieter of Carriage House Samplings

Needlepoint Inc. Silk
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	206	(3830)	russet red
■	587	(3371)	burnt umber
//	963	(415)	dapple gray
○	854	(402)	salmon
ℓ	861	(3771)	pale pumpkin
.	991	(blanc)	white
X	334	(3346)	meadow green

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 36-count pearled barley linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 66H x 53W
Design size: 3¾" x 3"

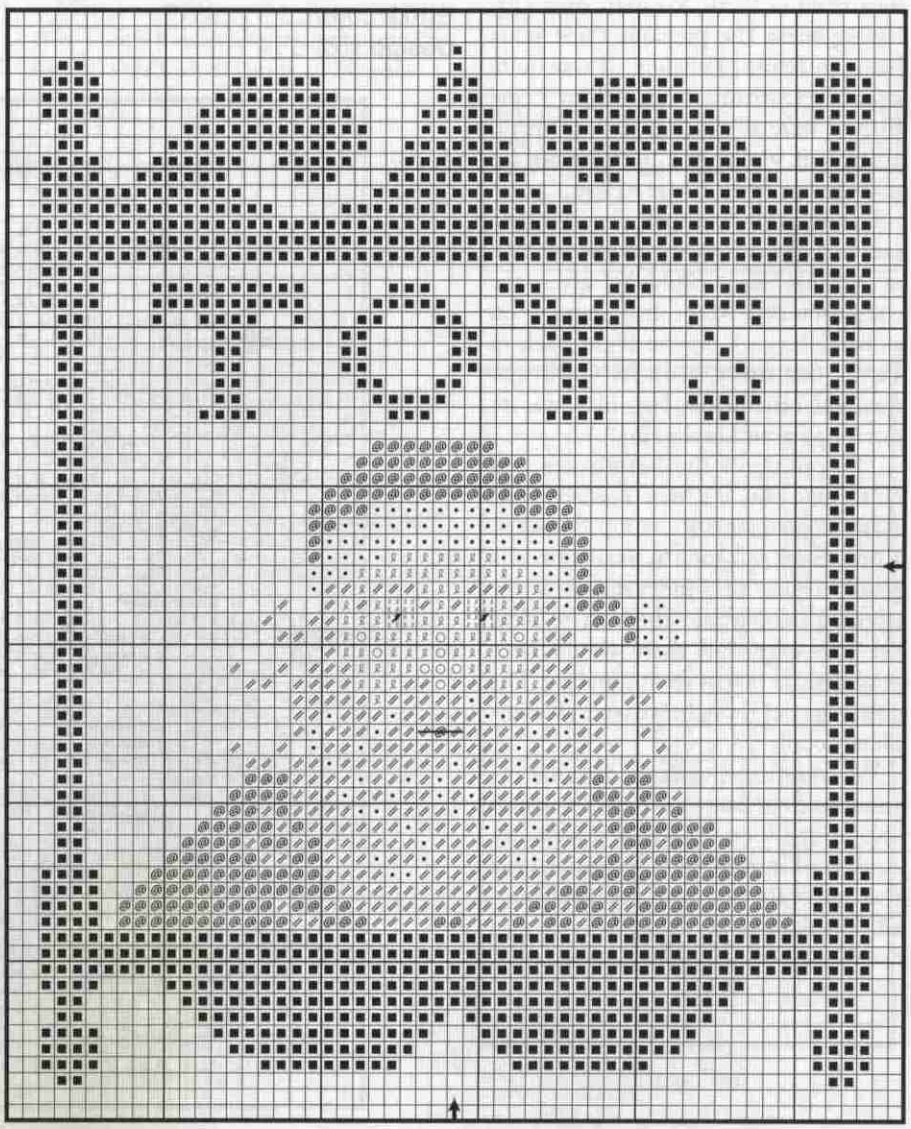
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear on chart, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over one thread for eyes, using one strand 587.

Work straight stitch over six threads for Santa's mouth, using one strand 206.

Photo is on page 17.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted cording was made using DMC® 3781. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Purchased black chain was used for hanger.



Toy Shop Sign

©2007 Carriage House Samplings

The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

Janie Hubble

I was twelve and a half when my family arrived in Perth, Western Australia, having spent the previous three years living in Beirut, Lebanon. It was quite close to Christmas, and Mum knew that we were all going to have to spend at least six weeks in a hotel before we managed to find a house to buy.

Determined that our first Christmas back in Australia was going to be as "normal" as it could be, given the circumstances, Mum had carried on as hand-luggage on the flight back to Perth our trusty, artificial Christmas tree and ornaments. Her plan was to put it up in our hotel room.

The ceiling of the hotel room was quite low, and the tree needed some major adjustments to its top branches. Every time someone walked into the room, a gust of wind caused by the opening door would threaten to blow the tree over, and there would be a mad dash to save it from toppling. The cleaning staff thought we were all completely odd!

We trimmed it with the familiar ornaments from past years, and some new ones to mark our arrival in a new city. And we all agreed that Christmas 1968 was one of the best we'd every celebrated. Thanks, Mum!

JOYEUX NOEL

Designed by Janie Hubble
of The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

The Gentle Art
Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	7004	(924)	Brethren blue
.	7012	(762)	picket fence
◑	7022	(315)	grape arbor
♡	7035	(3689)	tea rose

	DMC®	Anchor®	
@	839	1086	beige brown, dk.

Mill Hill® Antique Glass Beads

○	03041	white opal

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 28-count platinum Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 53H x 35W
Design size: $3^{7}/_{8}$" x $2^{1}/_{2}$"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

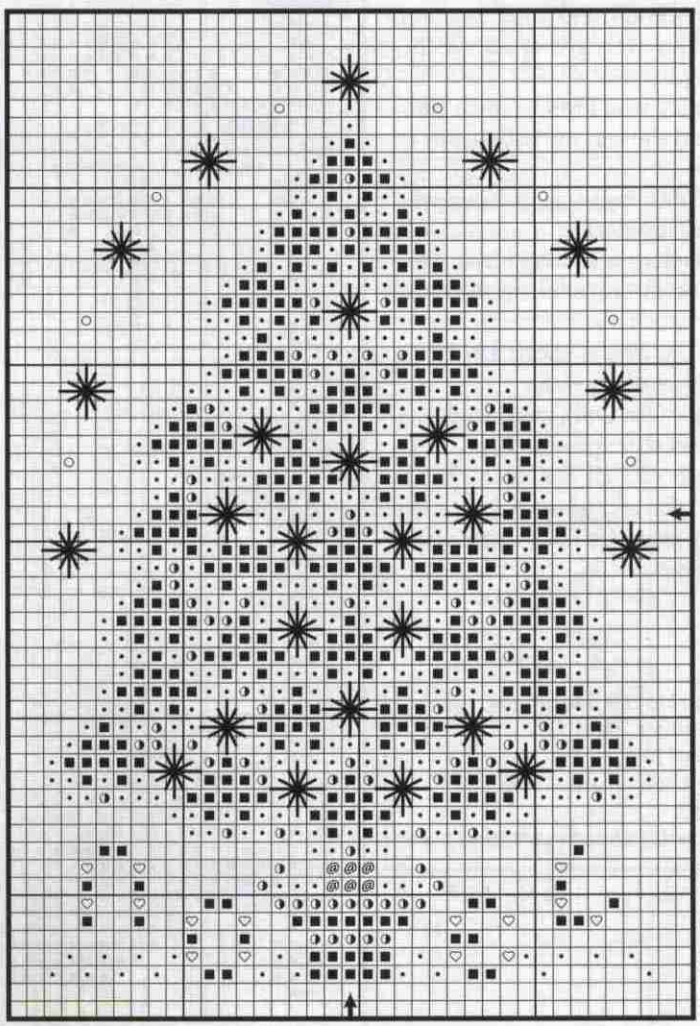
Work diamond-eyelet stitch over six threads, using two strands 7035 and pulling each leg firmly to open a hole in center of stitch.

Attach beads, using two strands 7012 and a half cross stitch.

Photo is on page 18.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted cording was made using 7035. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Bow was made using 7012.

The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio
35 Bailey Road
Lesmurdie, Western Australia 6076
e-mail: *admin@thecatswhiskers.net.au*
Web site: *www.thecatswhiskers.net.au*



©2007 The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

Joyeux Noel

Charland Designs, Inc.

Charland Garvin

This small Christmas tree ornament embodies some of the memories and stories I have of Christmas trees throughout my life. Two childhood memories stand out. I am reminded of the year my mother went the "decorator tree bit" and had ours flocked—something totally unappreciated by her children. Or the time Dad, after an afternoon of diligent searching in below-zero weather, brought the tree home, but found it about a foot too tall for our ceiling. He trimmed and trimmed and finally just hacked away to the extent that finally he had to go out and buy a whole new tree.

I remember too, early in my marriage, the flaming tree. It was our second Christmas in equatorial Africa, and Christmas dinner—never mind that the temperature was in the nineties—was a nine course English-style dinner at the headmaster's house. He and his wife were delighted to have old-fashioned small candles on their tree, which in turn were duly lit. Somehow, when the flaming Christmas pudding was served, the dry Christmas tree caught fire and, to everyone's horror, went up in a blaze of glory.

We cut our own trees when our children were small. We had a scrawny artificial one (dubbed the Charlie Brown tree), bought live ones to plant, went through big ones and small ones, some with long needles, and some with short needles. I think we've probably tried them all at one point or another.

Last year, though, was a first as Bob and I decided to spend Christmas with our son and his family in California, thus totally shocking those family members left behind. We had never been away from our home for the holidays. Days and evenings were spent with the California family and nights in an undecorated hotel room. A package from two very dear friends arrived at my son's for Bob and me with instructions to open it in our hotel room. You can imagine my delight when upon opening it, I found a wee tree, with built-in lights (batteries included). There were all the trimmings, too: a string of lights to garland the mirror, a Christmas-scent candle, a small stuffed Santa, a miniature fruitcake, and yummy homemade goodies. It was a wonderful gift to receive and certainly brightened up the stark surroundings at the impersonal hotel. The little tree has a wide range of memories for me and can certainly hold its own with the other tree stories I cherish.

May your own tree stand tall and proud this coming holiday season, basking in the love and warmth of family and friends.

Merry Christmas!

TIPSY TREE

Designed by Charland Garvin
of Charland Designs, Inc.

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■ 0330 (304) cherry wine
ᔕ 0640 (445) daffodil

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X 7050 (520) baby spinach

Mill Hill® Antique Seed Beads

● 03003 antique cranberry

Charland Designs, Inc. Sterling Silver Charm
star with stars

Charland Designs, Inc.
4" wooden glacier snowflake

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 28-count hand-dyed thyme linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 27H x 15W
Design size: 2" x 1 1/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads for tip of tree, using one strand 7050.

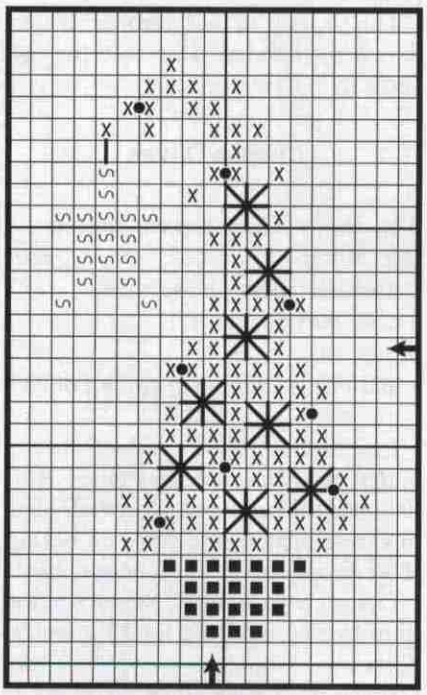
Work Algerian-eye stitch over four threads where ✳ appears, using two strands 7050.

Attach beads, using one strand 0330 and a cross stitch.

Referring to photo for placement, attach charm, using two strands 0640. Photo is on page 18.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Cut two 2" round circles from lightweight cardboard and glue together. Glue ornament to wooden snowflake base. Twisted cording was made using 7050. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Bow was made using purchased 1/16"-wide red satin ribbon.

Charland Designs, Inc.
244 Highland Avenue
Fort Erie, ON L2A 2X7
Canada
e-mail: *sydney@charlanddesigns.com*
Web site: *www.charlanddesigns.com*



Tipsy Tree

©2007 Charland Designs, Inc.

Charlette's Collectibles

Charlette Dockens

As a child, I spent many long hours reading, playing, and dreaming in my grandmother's garden. She had an abudance of flowers, but most of all, she had lilies of all types and colors. I loved to pull the pollen from the inside of the flowers and blow it into the air. My grandmother told me that each time I did that, "hope" would fly to anyone who needed it. She said that the lily was the "flower of Hope." From my grandmother, we would like to pass on to you the fifth in the series "The Right Angel for the Right Job™"—our "Hope Angel."

This is one of our favorite snacks during the holidays. I am told they go perfectly with martinis.

Cheese Olives

8 oz. sharp yellow cheese, grated
1/2 c. butter
1 dash Worcestershire sauce
1 c. all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1 (6.5-oz.) jar pimiento-stuffed olives

In a medium bowl, combine cheese, butter, and Worcestershire sauce. Add flour and salt; mix well. Coat each olive in cheese mixture and place on baking sheet. Freeze for one hour, or until hard.

Preheat oven to 425°. Remove olives from freezer and bake for 12 minutes. Serve hot.

If you don't bake all of the olives at one time, place them in a zip-top plastic bag and freeze.

HOPE ANGEL

Designed by Charlette Dockens of Charlette's Collectibles

	DMC®	Anchor®	
.	blanc	2	white
▲	470	266	avocado green, lt.
@	471	265	avocado green, vy. lt.
&	729	890	old gold, med.
■	839	1086	beige-brown, dk.
♡	605	1094	cranberry, vy. lt.
⍺	3841	1096	baby blue, pl.
+	677	361	old gold, vy. lt.
☆	676	891	old gold, lt.
ℓ	760	1022	salmon
/	754	1012	peach, lt.
	469	267	avocado green

	Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4	
○	9100	sunlight
✳	095	starburst

	Mill Hill® Seed Beads	
	02031	citron

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 14-count white perforated plastic from Yarn Tree
Stitch count: 54H x 42W
Design size: 3 7/8" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using three strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

Backstitch over one square, using one strand 839/1086.

Work long stitch for flower stamens, using two strands 469/267.

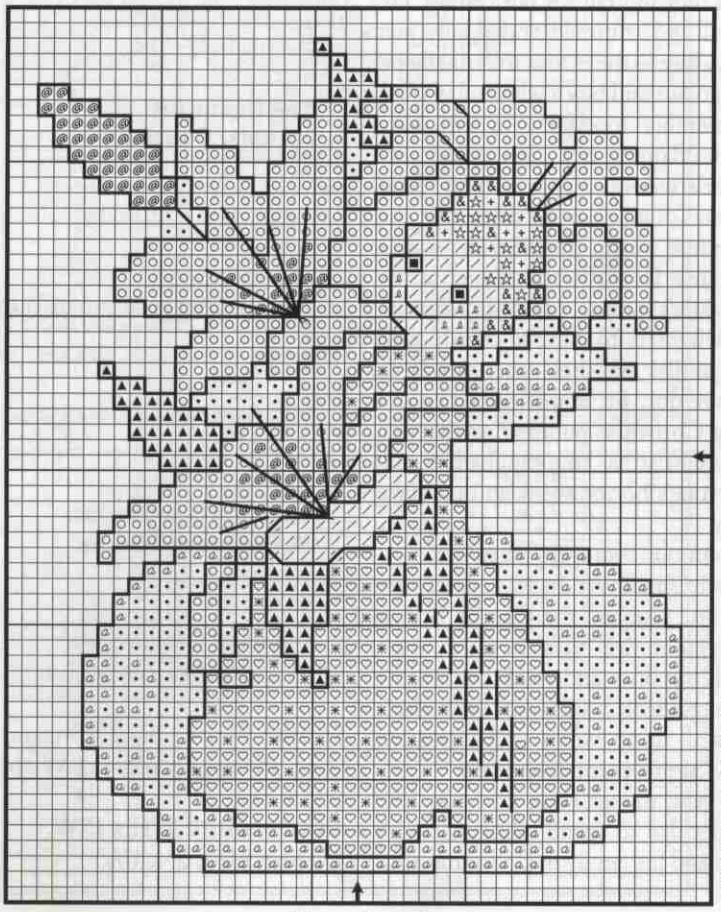
Attach a bead to the end of each stamen, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 26.

Finishing instructions: Trim stitched piece to one square from stitching. Using trimmed stitched piece as a template, cut out backing from coordinating fabric.

Position hanger on ornament and glue fabric to back of stitched piece.

Charlette's Collectibes
1824 Octubre Street
El Paso, TX 79935
e-mail: *toocute@elp.rr.com*
Web site:
www.charlettescollectibles.com



Hope Angel

©2007 Charlette's Collectibles

Charlotte's Web Needlework

Charlotte Smyth

This year, I look to my childhood Christmases for inspiration in designing my ornament. Every year, my parents gave me a doll. The year I was seven, it was Ruthie. She came in her own trunk with a wardrobe to match mine, both having been made by my mum. When I was in my twenties, it was the pair in the photo which my father, who hated shopping, bought all by himself. Whatever the doll, my mum would always say that she didn't know if they were for me or really for her. With this in mind, one year I decided to make her a doll, and a tradition was born. Felicity was such a hit that she was the first of what became known as "the kids." After mum died and I had to clear her home, there was no way I could leave them behind. They later made the move to London with me where they carry on having their tea party.

The pleasure they gave was not limited to Christmas. For her birthday, I made mum and Felicity matching dresses, in the spirit of Ruthie. One Sunday, Mum wore hers to church. When a little girl complemented her on it, she told her that her dolly had a dress just like it. The girl's eyes got as big as saucers at the thought of a grandmother having a dress that matched her doll's!

These cookies were my dad's favorite.

Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 c. margarine
¾ c. brown sugar
¾ c. sugar
1 tsp. baking soda dissolved in 1 Tbsp. coffee
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2¼ c. all-purpose flour
6 oz. chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a mixing bowl, combine all ingredients. Mix well, and shape into balls. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet and bake for 8–10 minutes.

Charlotte's Web Needlework
39 High Worple
Harrow, Middlesex HA2 9SX
England
e-mail: *charlotteswebneedlework@yahoo.co.uk*
Web site:
www.charlotteswebneedlework.com

MY MUM'S DOLL

Designed by Charlotte Smyth of Charlotte's Web Needlework

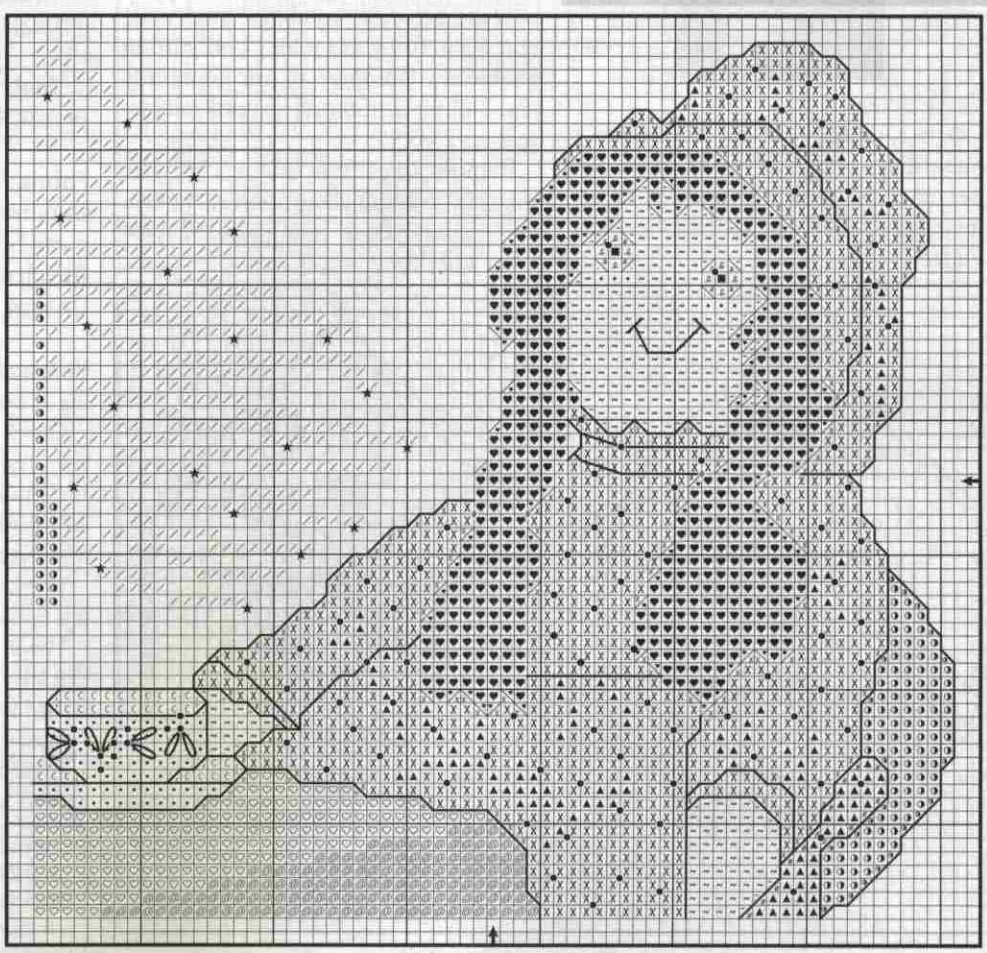
DMC®	Anchor®	
. blanc	2	white
♡ 223	895	shell pink, lt.
■ 310	403	black
☾ 415	398	pearl gray
◑ 434	310	brown, lt.
⁄ 500	683	blue green, vy. dk. (half-cross stitch)
♥ 918	341	red copper, dk.
▲ 924	851	gray-green, vy. dk.
3768	779	gray-green, dk.
X 926	850	gray-green, med.
~ 948	1011	peach, vy. lt.
@ 3722	1027	shell pink, med.
318	399	steel gray, lt.
498	1005	Christmas red, dk.
924	851	gray-green, dk.
3721	896	shell pink, dk.

Mill Hill® Seed Beads

★ 00479	white

The Thread Gatherer 4mm Silken Ribbon

000	snow drift white



My Mum's Doll

©2007 Charlotte's Web Needlework

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count antique white Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 66H x 69W
Design size: 4 1/8" x 4 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work half cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work partial cross stitch where small symbols appear on chart, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Work French knots where • appears, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once.

Work lazy-daisy stitch for leaves on cup, using two strands 500/683.

Attach beads using one strand blanc/2.

Thread 4mm ribbon and tie where ◆ appears for bows.

Photo is on page 22.

Backstitch instructions:

498	1005	mouth (two strands)
318	399	tea cup and saucer
3721	896	tablecloth
924	851	remainder of backstitch

French-knot instructions:

498	1005	berries on tea cup
white	2	eyes, dress, bonnet

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Hanger was made using purchased 1/4" white satin ribbon.

Cherished Stitches

Louise Henderson

It is a tradition at our house that I make fudge while the rest of the family decorates the Christmas tree. My favorite recipe is the Original Marshmallow Fudge.

Original Marshmallow Fudge

3/4 c. butter or margarine
1 (5-oz.) can evaporated milk
3 c. sugar
1 (12-oz.) pkg. semi-sweet chocolate morsels
1 (7-oz.) jar marshmallow creme
1 tsp. vanilla extract
Chopped pecans (optional)

Butter a 13" x 9" pan. Set aside.

In a medium heavy-bottom saucepan over medium heat, combine butter, milk, and sugar. Bring to a rolling boil, stirring constantly. Continue to stir constantly and boil for 5 minutes, or until mixture reaches 234°.

Remove from heat, stir in chocolate morsels, marshmallow creme, vanilla, and pecans. Pour into prepared pan. Cool and slice.

A COLONIAL CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

Designed by Louise Henderson of Cherished Stitches

DMC®	Anchor®	
♥ 814	45	garnet, dk.
@ 815	44	garnet, med.
■ 890	218	pistachio green, ul. dk.
⌐ 3828	373	hazelnut brown
⌐ 002	Kreinik® BF	gold

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

☆ 002HL		gold, hi lustre

Mill Hill® Antique Seed Beads

• 03003		antique cranberry

Fabric: 10" x 7" piece 28-count wheaten Country French linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 43H x 29W (each panel)
Design size: 3 1/8" x 2 1/8" (each panel)

Instructions: Center panels on linen, leaving 1" seam allowance around each panel.

Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid. When two colors are bracketed together, use two strands of floss and one strand of blending filament.

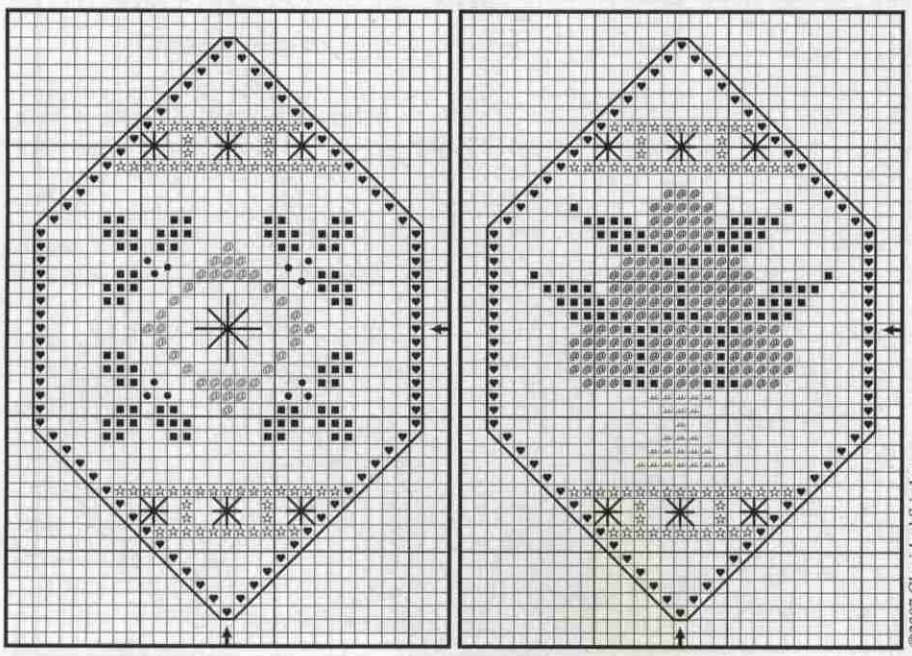
Work star stitch over ten threads, using one strand very fine braid.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads where ✳ appears, using one strand very fine braid.

Personalize a third panel, as desired.

Attach beads, using two strands 814/45 and a full cross stitch.

Cherished Stitches
1310 Westridge Road
Greensboro, NC 27410
e-mail: *lucystitch@earthlink.net*
Web site: *www.cherishedstitches.com*



©2007 Cherished Stitches

A Colonial Christmas Ornament, Panels One and Two

Finishing instructions: Trim each stitched panel, leaving a 1/2" seam allowance. Finger press seam allowance to back side of stitched piece.

Using a ladder stitch and two strands 814, join panel one and panel two together. (**Note**: Leave top and bottom points unjoined.) Join panel three to panel one along lower and side edges only. Park needle.

Insert twisted cording and tassel into bottom of ornament; pull twisted-cording loop through top hole and leaving tassel hanging from bottom. (Twisted cording and tassel made using DMC® 814. Twisted cording instructions appear on page 70; tassel-making directions are on page 73.) Stuff ornament with polyester stuffing, keeping twisted cording in center of ornament. Continue ladder stitch to complete seam.

Photo is on page 15.

Holiday Fruit Crisp

2 (8-oz.) pkgs. dried apricots
2 c. water
6 c. sliced apples, cored and peeled
2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1/3 c. sugar
2 Tbsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. cinnamon
2 pts. fresh raspberries (or frozen, unsweetened)

Streusel topping:
2/3 c. all-purpose flour
2/3 c. brown sugar
2/3 c. rolled oats
1/2 c. butter

Preheat oven to 350°. Butter a 13" x 9" baking dish; set aside.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine apricots and water. Bring to boil; remove from heat and let rest in pan for 15 minutes. Drain; set aside.

In a large bowl, combine apples, flour, sugar, lemon juice, and cinnamon. Stir in prepared apricots; mix well. Add raspberries and mix gently to avoid breaking up the berries. Pour mixture into prepared baking dish.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, brown sugar, and oats. Cut butter into 16 pieces and then cut into the flour mixture, using a pastry blender, until it resembles small crumbs. Sprinkle on top of fruit mixture.

Bake for 45–55 minutes, or until browned on top and fruit is bubbly and soft.

Serve with vanilla ice cream or crème fraîche.

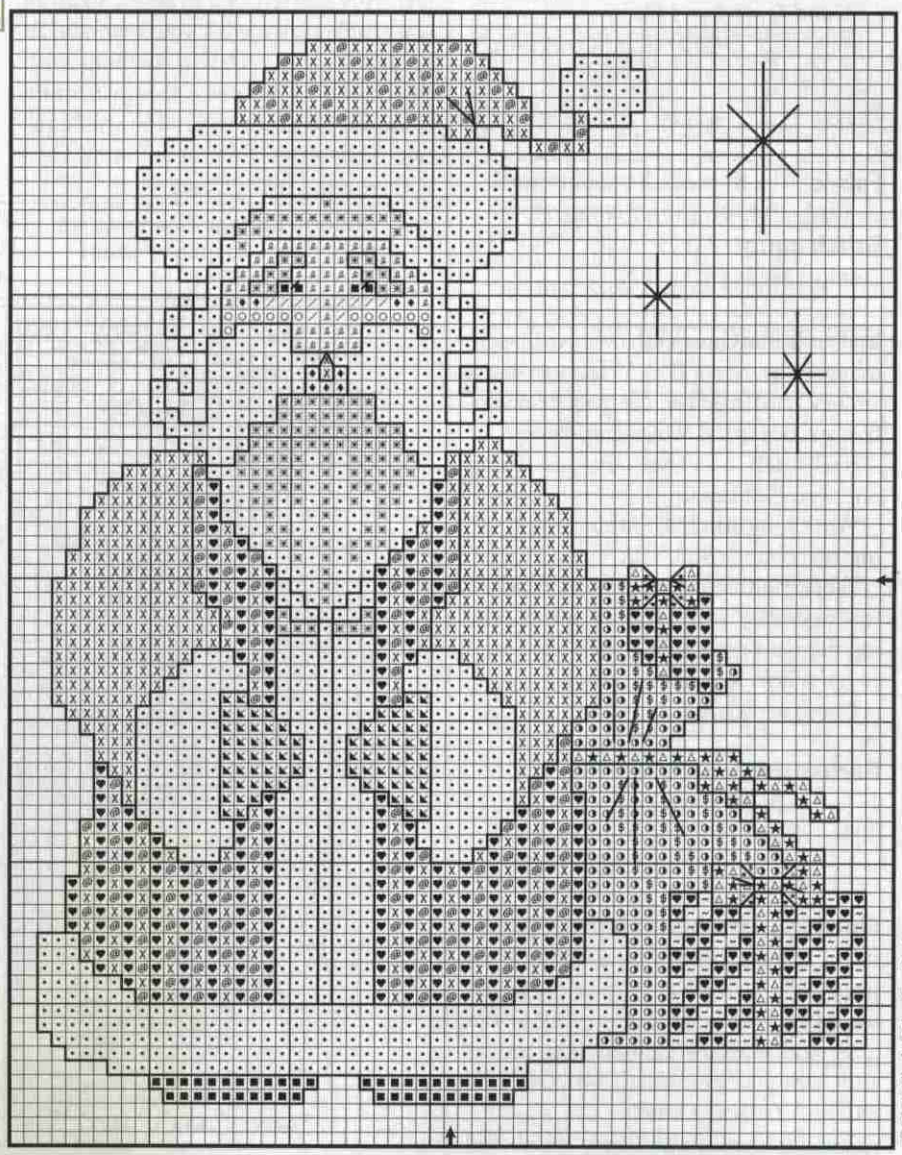
Cindy Valentine Designs

Cindy Valentine

My favorite fruit mixture for this recipe consists of apples, apricots, and raspberries, but any tart fruit can be substituted. Good choices included strawberries, blackberries, cherries, plums, or fresh peaches. If using apricots, use dried rather than fresh ones for a richer apricot flavor. You can lighten this up by reducing the streusel topping to half the amount. I do this, and my family doesn't even notice.

Have a wonderful Christmas filled with the many blessings of the season!

Cindy Valentine Designs
1525 Kenosha Court
Davenport, IA 52804
e-mail: *cindy@cindyvalentine.com*
Web site: *www.cindyvalentine.com*



Better Watch Out

©2007 Cindy Valentine Designs

BETTER WATCH OUT!

Designed by Cindy Valentine
of Cindy Valentine Designs

	Anchor®	DMC®	
.	1	B5200	snow white
○	1008	3773	chicory, med.
/	880	951	copper, lt.
◆	1024	3328	peony, med.
*	398	415	gray
~	943	422	wheat
♥	22	815	burgundy, vy. dk.
$	217	367	juniper, med. dk.
ℓ	881	945	copper, med. lt.
◑	212	561	spruce, dk.
■	403	310	black
»	401	3799	gray, dk.
★	901	680	brass, med.
△	901	680	brass, med.
	002	Kreinik® BF	gold

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	2266	(902)	Turkish red
@	2266	(902)	Turkish red
	003	Kreinik® BF	red

Fabric: 9" x 8" piece 28-count raw linen Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 75H x 59W
Design size: 5 3/8" x 4 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use two strands of floss and one strand of blending filament.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work long stitch for folds on bag, using two strands 403/310.

Work modified diamond-eyelet stitch for "twinkles," using two strands blending filament and pulling each leg gently to open hole in center of stitch.

Photo is on page 16.

Backstitch instructions:

1	B5200	eyes
403	310	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Beaded edge was made using Mill Hill® Seed Beads (#00557 old gold and #02054 brilliant shamrock) and Antique Seed Beads (#03049 rich red) and a blanket stitch.

Hanger was made using purchased 1/4" red grosgrain ribbon.

Country Cottage Needleworks

Nikki Leeman

Pictured with me this year are my two kids, Juliet and Sean. Being a cross-stitch designer has afforded me the amazing opportunity to do something that I enjoy while being able to stay home with them, and for this, I feel truly blessed. So, from us, to all of you stitchers, we wish you a wonderful holiday season. And in keeping with the theme of my piece this year, from Luke 2:14, "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

Country Cottage Needleworks
6073 North Raspberry Court
Tucson, AZ 85741
e-mail: *cottagestitching@msn.com*
Web site:
www.countrycottageneedleworks.com

PEACE

Designed by Nikki Leeman
of Country Cottage Needleworks

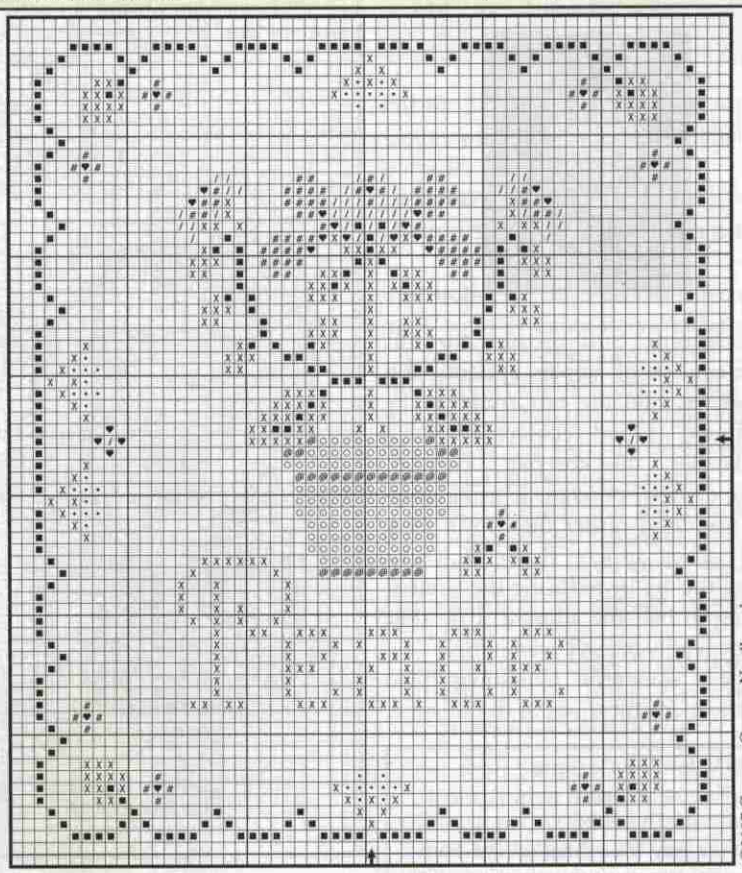
	DMC®	Anchor®	
@	420	374	hazelnut brown, dk.
#	760	1022	salmon
/	761	1021	salmon, lt.
■	3051	845	green-gray, dk.
X	3052	844	green-gray, med.
♥	3712	1023	salmon, med.
○	3828	373	hazelnut brown
.	3865	2	winter white

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count patina linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 67H x 57W
Design size: 4 7/8" x 4 1/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Photo is on page 20.

Finishing instructions: Trim linen to 1/2" from stitched border. Finger press 1/4" seam allowance to back. Blind stitch to pillow made from Weeks Dye Works™ kudzu (#2200) wool.



Peace

©2007 Country Cottage Needleworks

Crossed Wing Collection

Paula and Dan Minkebinge

The first Christmas away from home for the both of us was spent during a winter of skiing and working at the Big Sky Resort in Montana. But we weren't alone. For just about everyone we worked with, home and family were someplace else. So when the suggestion was made that we get together for a potluck supper on Christmas Eve, the response was unanimous approval.

After work that day, several people loaded all of the dishes into their vehicles and drove to the house where the rest of us would rendezvous later.

As we remember, it had snowed just about nonstop day and night for two weeks leading up to Christmas. That evening, like magic, the skies cleared, exposing a huge, beautiful full moon. Under the light of that moon, with the snow-covered mountains as a backdrop, the group of us skiied cross-country the six miles down the mountain to our friends' home.

It was an unworldy magical experience. Combined with all of that great food and the company of so many good friends, that Christmas Eve so many years ago remains etched in our memories forever.

Here is one of our favorite recipes from our Big Sky days.

Good stitching, good birding, and happy holidays!

Snow Ice Cream #1

2 c. heavy cream
1 c. sugar
Vanilla extract to taste
Fresh snow

In a mixing bowl with a hand mixer, whip cream until soft peaks form. Slowly add sugar and vanilla, whipping constantly. Once peaks have formed, gently fold snow into the cream mixture until it can absorb no more.

RED BIRD

Designed by Dan and Paula Minkebige of Crossed Wing Collection

	DMC®	Anchor®	
.	blanc	2	white
■	310	403	black
◑	3799	236	pewter gray, vy. dk.
▲	3371	382	black-brown
#	898	360	coffee brown, vy. dk.
○	350	11	coral, med.
ℓ	351	10	coral
☾	352	9	coral, lt.
♥	816	1005	garnet
★	304	1006	red, med.
@	321	9046	red
3	321	9046	red
	3801	1098	melon, vy. dk.
☆	3801	1098	melon, vy. dk.
X	666	46	red, bt.
a	3705	35	melon, dk.
	814	45	garnet, dk.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count red bird hand-dyed linen from Crossed Wing Collection
Stitch count: 48H x 52W
Design size: 3 1/2" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread for eye area, using one strand of floss and referring to over-one chart.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

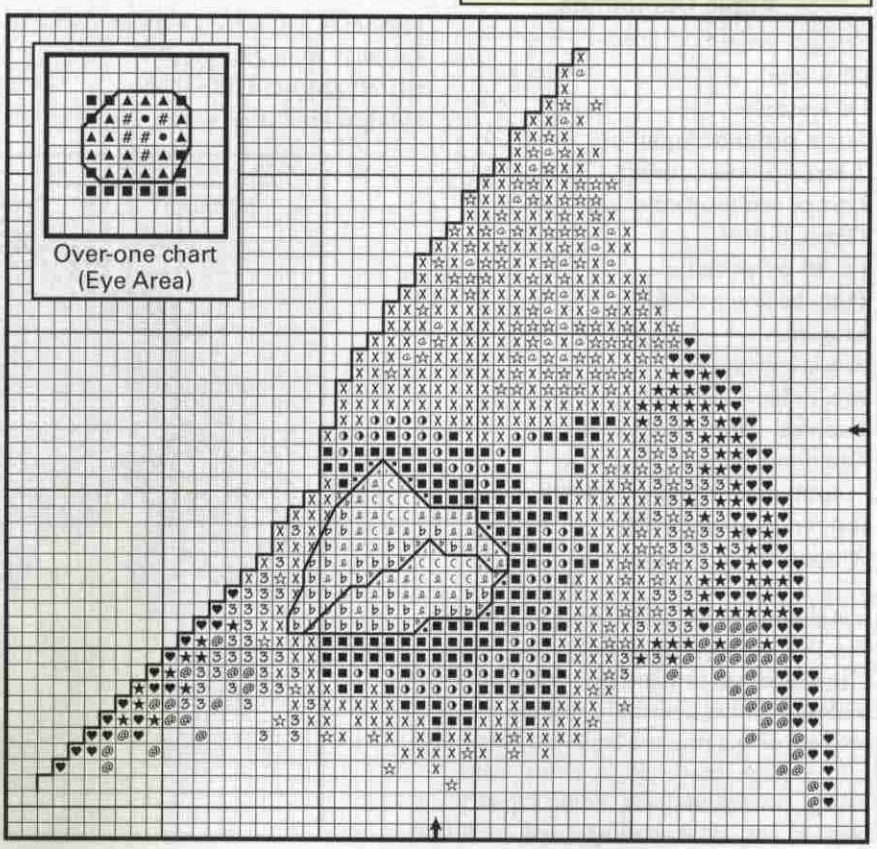
Photo is on page 24.

Backstitch instructions:

3705	35	eye
814	45	back of head; lower shoulder
816	1005	bill; front of crest; upper shoulder (crest)

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Trim was made using purchased iridescent gold ribbon.

Crossed Wing Collection
E2072 Spencer Lake Road
Waupaca, WI 54981
e-mail: *xdwing@execpc.com*
Web site: *www.crossedwing.com*



Red Bird

©2007 Crossed Wing Collection

Cross-Eyed Cricket, Inc.

Vicki Hastings

Memories of my mother are the dearest of my Christmas treasures. Like the Fairy Godmother in Cinderella, she could take a handful of humble resources and conjure Christmas magic. Even in difficult times, her children always knew the wonder of Christmas lights, the scent of evergreen, and the excitement of the wrapped unknown. This recipe for apple dumplings is one she saved for special occasions. I remember them for their marvelous fragrance and beautiful presentation. She would be so pleased that her recipe is being shared. Enjoy!

Apple Dumplings

1 c. sugar
1 c. water
1/8 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/8 tsp. ground nutmeg
2 drops red food coloring
2 Tbsp. butter
2 c. all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
2/3 c. shortening
1/2 c. milk
6 apples, pared and cored
Additional sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, and butter to taste
Tart red jelly (optional)
Whipped cream (optional)

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease an 11" x 7" x 1 1/2" baking pan; set aside.

In a saucepan over medium heat, combine sugar, water, cinnamon, nutmeg, and food coloring; bring to a boil. Add butter.

In a large bowl, sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. Using a pastry blender, cut in shortening. Add milk, and stir until moistened. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and roll to a 1/4" thickness. Cut into six 6" squares.

Place one apple in center of each pastry square. Sprinkle generously with additional sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg; dot with butter. Bring corners of pastry square up to the center of the apple and pinch edges together.

Place apples 1" apart in baking pan. Spoon syrup mixture over apples; sprinkle with sugar. Bake for 35 minutes.

Serve hot with tart red jelly and cream.

Makes 6 servings.

"KEEPING WATCH" MITTEN

Designed by Vicki Hastings of Cross-Eyed Cricket, Inc.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
X	931	1034	antique blue, med.
☆	3820	306	straw, dk.
■	939	152	navy blue, vy. dk.
~	3822	295	straw, lt.
.	3823	386	yellow, ul. pl.
@	3829	901	old gold, vy. dk.

	Just Another Button Company™	
◆	nh1055.S	small Nancy sheep
♥	nh1060.S	small shepherd
★	3462.M	medium butter star

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 20-count blueberry Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 43H x 42W
Design size: 4 3/8" x 4 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using five strands of floss.

Attach buttons, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Photo is on page 20.

Finishing materials and instructions:

5" x 5" piece lightweight, acid-free cardboard
5" x 5" piece batting
5" x 5" piece Weeks Dye Works™ #1269HB chestnut wool
8" length (1/4"-diameter) gold satin ribbon

Using contrasting sewing thread, baste outline of mitten 1/4" beyond stitching; finger press along basted line. Remove basting thread.

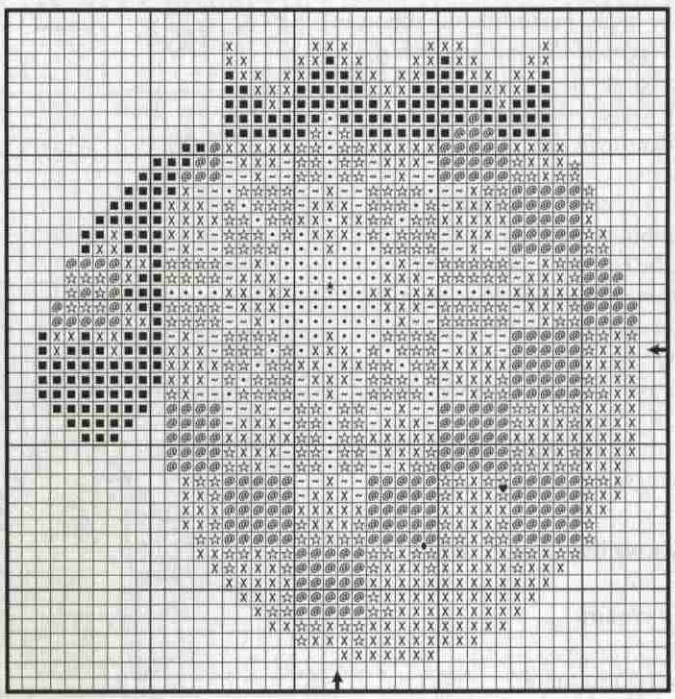
Using inner mitten template on this page, cut out cardboard. Using pinking shears, cut out wool using outer template as a pattern.

Glue cardboard to batting. When dry, trim batting even with edges of cardboard.

Place cardboard batting side down against wrong side of stitching and fold seam allowances over cardboard; glue seam allowances in place on back of cardboard. Center stitched piece atop wool and glue in place.

Fold ribbon in half and tack to top center of ornament for hanger.

Cross-Eyed Cricket, Inc.
14554 Amstel Court
Chesterfield, MO 63017
e-mail: *cecricket@cecricket.com*
Web site: *www.cecricket.com*



©2007 Cross-Eyed Cricket, Inc.

"Keeping Watch" Mitten

DebBee's Designs

Debbie Rowley

Christmas 2006 marked an unusual time for me. I was four months into a six-month round of chemotherapy. Last year, we didn't put up a Christmas tree or put lights on the house. I didn't bake a single Christmas goodie. For the first time in 31 years, I didn't sing in the church Christmas musical. I didn't send Christmas cards. I didn't get out my collection of Holy Families to display. In fact, the only Christmas thing I managed was to buy Christmas gifts, mostly online, and get them wrapped. We piled them in a corner, and that was the only sign of Christmas in our house.

But, we still celebrated Christmas, even though we had none of the trappings. On Christmas day, my family gathered at our house, and we all cooked Christmas dinner. My father and mother joined us, and their Christmas was just like ours. My father was undergoing chemo for multiple myeloma, and they missed everything they usually did for Christmas as well. I realized that Christmas, more than any other time, celebrates three special things: hope, the hope of new life in Christ; love, the love of people we love and who love us; and joy, the joy that can only come through a soul at peace.

Christmas 2007 will be very different—we will celebrate this year with our first grandchild! But I will remember this past Christmas and the lessons learned.

This recipe doesn't seem very Christmasy, but it's easy and makes a great appetizer.

Guacamole

1 ripe avocado for each person
1 Tbsp. picante sauce for each avocado
Salt to taste

Scoop out the insides of avocado, discarding the skin and pit. Mash very finely with a fork or potato masher. Add picante sauce and salt, and stir. Serve immediately with tortilla chips!

BARGELLO STAR ORNAMENT

Designed by Debbie Rowley
of DebBee's Designs

DMC®/Anchor®

◑	498	1005	red, dk.
■	3345	268	hunter green, dk.

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss

X	4105	noel

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

○	002HL	gold, hi lustre

Mill Hill® Treasures

12036	small gold snowflake

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 28-count opalescent raw Cashel® from Zweigart®

Stitch count: 65H x 65W
Design size: 4 3/4" x 4 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

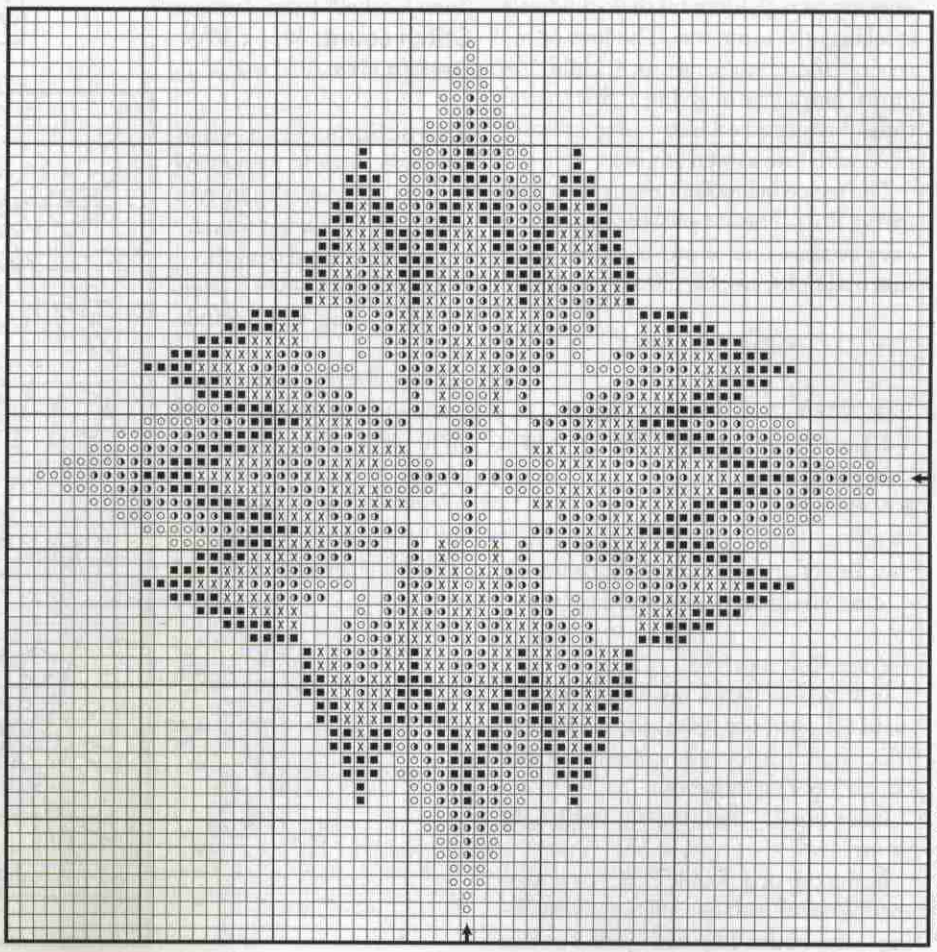
Attach treasure in center of design, using one strand 4105 and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 14.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted cording was made using DMC® 498. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Tassel was made using DMC®498, DMC® 3345, and Kreinik® 002HL. Tassel-making instructions are on page 73.

Stitched by Tina Davis

DebBee's Designs
27 White Oak Drive
Conway, AR 72034
e-mail: *debbie@debbeesdesigns.com*
Web site: *www.debbeesdesigns.com*



Bargello Star Ornament

©2007 DebBee's Designs

Designs by Cathy Jean

Cathy Coombes

One of my favorite memories of Christmas is of stockings—what fun they were! My mom always knew those little things that were most special to each one of us. They were small, but my mom made them by hand and carefully gathered the gifts throughout the year. My brothers, sister, and I got up early Christmas morning, quivering with excitement to see and open them.

While my three children grew up, I followed my mom's loving tradition; and now my own children fill their children's stockings the same way. The love of receiving those stockings as a child has grown into a love of giving at this special time of year, and each stocking is always filled with love as well as gifts.

The recipe below is from my very dear friend, Rose. These special cookies, which have become one of our lasting Christmas traditions, are also filled with love.

Filbert Fingers

½ c. sifted confectioners' sugar
1 c. plus 4 tsp. butter, softened and divided
2 c. all-purpose flour
¼ tsp. salt
¾ c. finely ground filberts (hazelnuts)
4 (4-oz.) bars semisweet chocolate

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a medium bowl, mix together sugar and 1 c. butter; add flour, salt, and filberts. Mix well. Roll small amounts of the dough into finger shapes.

Bake for 15 minutes, or until light brown.

In the top of a double boiler over simmering water, melt chocolate and remaining 4 tsp. butter. Dip each end of cookie into chocolate; let cool until firm.

Store between layers of waxed paper in cookie tin.

FILL WITH LOVE

Designed by Cathy Coombes
of Designs by Cathy Jean

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

ℓ	0380	(309)	raspberry parfait
.	1150	(ecru)	flax
	0440	(3790)	maple syrup

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	7046	(814)	weathered barn
▲	7048	(611)	old hickory
■	7042	(310)	raven
@	[7046	(814)	weathered barn
	0380 ST*		raspberry parfait
☆	[7048	(611)	old hickory
	1150 ST*		flax
	7050	(520)	baby spinach

**The Gentle Art Sampler Threads (ST)*

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 28-count dirty linen Cashel® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 49H x 30W
Design size: 3½" x 2⅛"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of each.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work French knot where • appears, using one strand 0440 and wrapping floss around needle twice.

Work straight stitch, using two strands of floss.

Photo is on page 10.

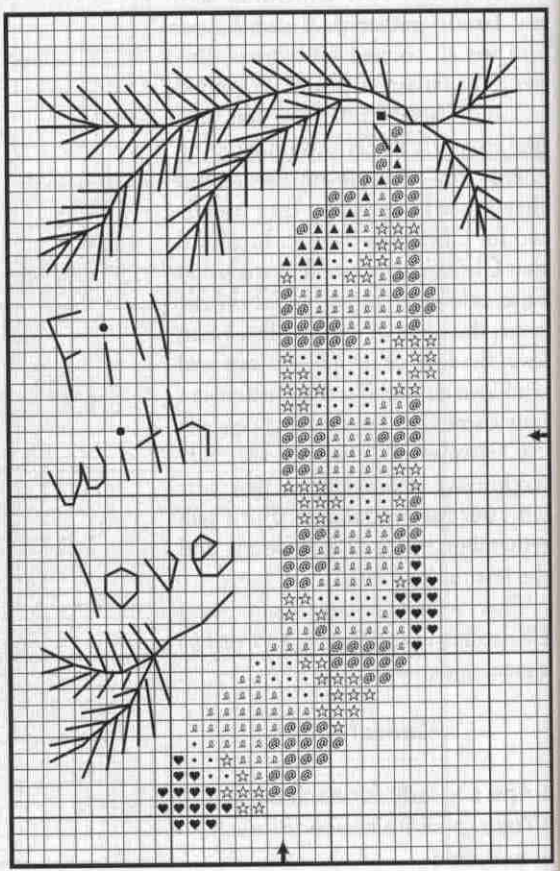
Backstitch instructions:
0440 lettering
7050 branches

Straight stitch instructions:
7042 stocking hanger
7050 pine needles

Finishing instructions: Trim linen to ⅝" from stitched design. Finger press ⅜" seam allowance to back. Using a blanket stitch and two strands of 0440, attach stitched piece to pillow made from coordinating fabric. Pillow-ornament finishing instructions are on page 101. If desired, attach buttons at corners.

To make hanger, twist a 12" length of 22-gauge black wire around a pencil several times. Remove from pencil and attach to upper corners, using coordinating floss or sewing thread.

Designs by Cathy Jean
8700 Aldous Terrace
Sidney, BC V8L 1L2
Canada
e-mail: *cathy@victoriasampler.com*
Web site: *www.victoriasampler.com*



Fill With Love

Dragon Dreams, Inc.

Jennifer Aikman-Smith

The holidays are, for many, a time to gather together with family and friends. It is then that we celebrate those traditions that are unique to our own kith and kin. This year, as I was preparing this ornament for the magazine, my grandfather George Owen passed away less than a month before his 95th birthday. We gathered together at his family home in Montreal, knowing that it truly was the end of an era. Yet in many ways, it was also the start of many new beginnings.

After 63 years in the same house, you can imagine some of the clutter that the family had to deal with. Yet suddenly, ornaments and holiday decorations that had graced the Owen home for years were finding new homes among the two daughters, six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and a multitude of other family members. Each of us took a few things to hang on our own trees or place on our mantles. Now, every year when I take my treasures out to add to our family tree, I will repeat the stories that go with each item or share memories of my Grampy with my girls. It is wonderful that they have real memories of him when I never had the chance to meet any of my "greats."

As you stitch ornaments from this issue for friends and family, who knows what rich traditions they will become a part of in years to come. Hopefully, they will be treasured by all who receive them. This year's ornament is the sequel to last year when Santa suddenly found himself with a little dragon to love. The dragon has now grown big enough to help with "checking it twice"—but maybe it's just making sure that its own name isn't on there!

CHECKING IT TWICE

Designed by Jennifer Aikman-Smith of Dragon Dreams

	DMC®	Anchor®	
☾	blanc	2	white
♡	223	895	shell pink, lt.
ℓ	224	893	shell pink, vy. lt.
■	319	1044	pistachio green, vy. dk.
◆	368	214	pistachio green, lt.
ш	369	1043	pistachio green, vy. lt.
◊	415	398	pearl gray
@	498	1005	red, dk.
~	712	926	cream
¢	738	361	tan, vy. lt.
○	739	366	tan, ul. vy. lt.
♥	814	45	garnet, dk.
▲	815	44	garnet, med.
◑	3371	382	black-brown

Rainbow Gallery Fuzzy Stuff®

•	FZ15	white

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 28-count sage Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 49H x 49W
Design size: 3½" x 3½"

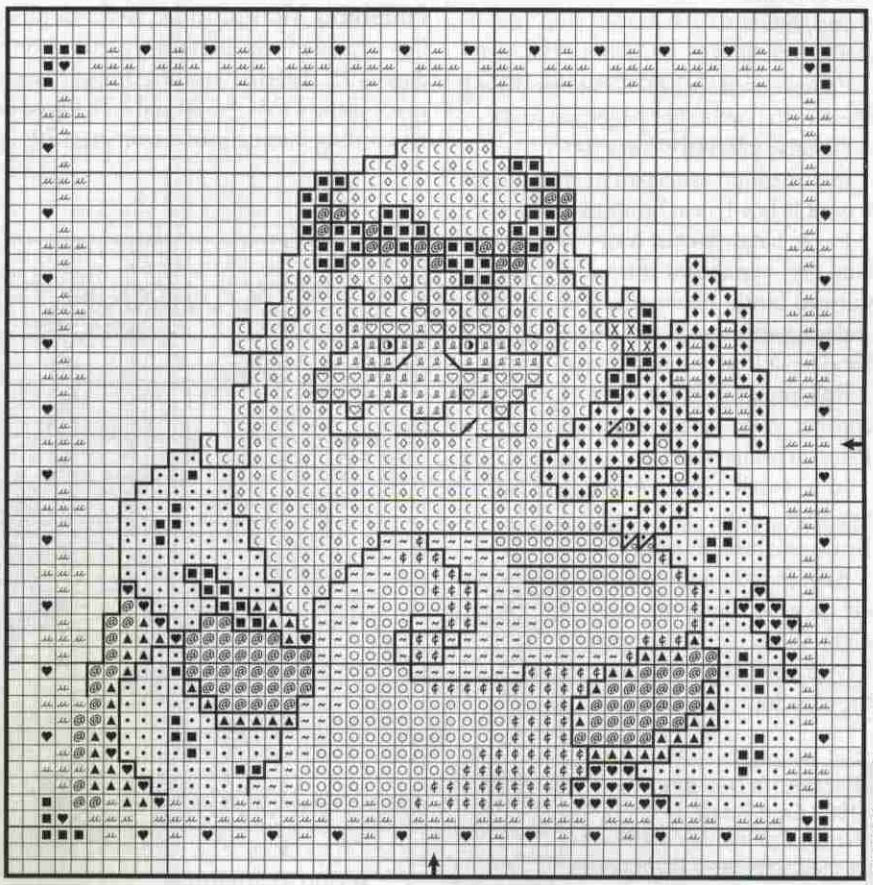
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of Fuzzy Stuff.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 3371/382.

Photo is on page 17.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page xx. Twisted cording hanger was made using 814/45, 319/1044, and blanc/2. Twisted-cording instructions are on page 70.

Dragon Dreams, Inc.
112 Highmeadow Drive
Moncton, NB E1G 2C3
Canada
e-mail: *dragondr@nbnet.nb.ca*
Web site: *www.dragondreams.ca*



Checking It Twice

©2007 Dragon Dreams, Inc.

Elizabeth's Designs

Elizabeth Foster

Crunchy Dog Treats

1 (¼-oz.) pkg. dry yeast
¼ c. warm water
1 (14.5-oz.) can beef or chicken broth
2½ c. all-purpose flour
2 c. whole-wheat flour
1 c. rolled oats
½ c. wheat germ
½ c. cornmeal
½ c. non-fat dry milk
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. mint extract
1 Tbsp. milk
1 egg, beaten

Preheat oven to 300°. Line one baking sheet with parchment paper; set aside.

Dissolve yeast in water.

In a medium saucepan or in a microwaveable bowl, heat broth to about 110°.

In a large bowl, combine dry ingredients. Stir in warmed broth, mint extract, and yeast mixture. Knead by hand for at least 3 minutes.

Roll into a ½"-thick sheet and cut with cookie cutter. Place on baking sheet.

In a small bowl, whisk together milk and egg. Brush mixture on cookies.

Bake for 40 minutes. Turn off oven and leave in overnight. **Note**: The longer you leave them in the warm oven, the crunchier they get.

Elizabeth's Designs
1880 Cain Road
North Collins, NY 14111
e-mail: *elizfoster@aol.com*
Web site: *www.elizabethsdesigns.com*

A DOG'S CHRISTMAS

Designed by Elizabeth Foster
of Elizabeth's Designs

DMC®	Anchor®	
♥ 221	897	shell pink, vy. dk.
X 676	891	old gold, lt.
■ 898	380	coffee brown, vy. dk.
520	862	fern green, dk.

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 32-count antique copper linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 40H x 36W
Design size: 2½" x 2¼"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

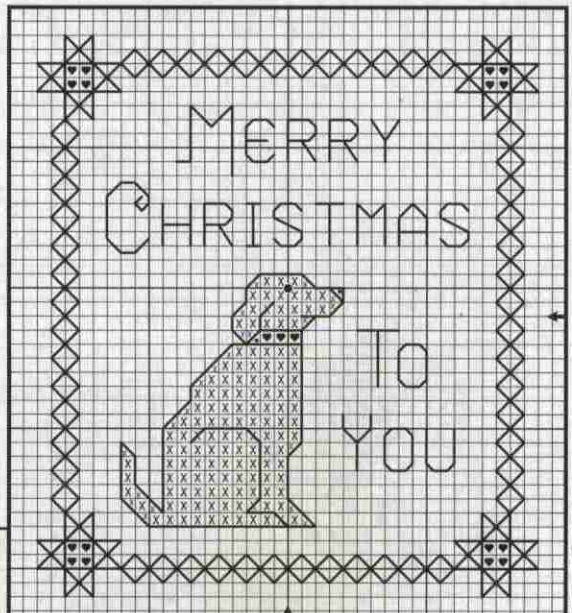
Work French knot where • appears for eye, using one strand 898/380 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Photo is on page 24.

Backstitch instructions:

520	862	border
221	897	lettering
898	380	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Twisted cording hanger was made using DMC® 520 and 221. Twisted-cording instructions are on page 70.



©2007 Elizabeth's Designs

A Dog's Christmas

Erica Michaels Designs

Linda Stolz

This is actually a memory of my mother's from her childhood growing up on a farm in south-central Kansas. It was an old farmhouse where the formal dining room was kept closed all winter long so they wouldn't have to heat it. Therefore, it was the perfect location for storing various food items that needed to stay cool—including the treats for the holidays that were stored in tin "syrup buckets." My great-grandmother also lived with them and joined my grandmother every year in making lots and lots of goodies for giving to the children, family, and friends. These included divinity, peanut brittle, chocolate fudge, and pineapple fudge.

As there was no fireplace with a chimney in the house, my mother and her two sisters would hang their long cotton stockings on a rack in the kitchen. On Christmas morning, they would find their stockings very much stretched out and filled with an apple, an orange, nuts, and lots of the treats that had been stored away in the dining room.

The peanut-brittle recipe here is the one used by the women of my family for many, many years. It's sometimes a bit finicky. But when you get it right, it really does melt in your mouth!

Grandma's Peanut Brittle

2 c. sugar
1 c. light corn syrup
½ c. water
2 c. raw peanuts
1 Tbsp. butter
4 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. vanilla extract

In a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat, combine sugar, corn syrup, and water. Stirring occasionally with a wooden spoon, cook to the soft ball stage

Note: Check temperature, using a candy thermometer.

Add peanuts and butter, stir occasionally. Cook until golden brown. (The mixture will smell very "peanuty.") The cooking time can vary from 15–20 minutes to 40–45 minutes. **Note:** Be sure to keep watching and smelling!

Quickly stir in baking soda and vanilla. The mixture will expand and grow. Turn out onto two ungreased cookie sheets, and allow to cool. Break into pieces when cool. For best results, make on a sunny, dry day. It doesn't work as well in the evening or in damp, rainy weather.

QUIET NIGHT

Designed by Linda Stolz
of Erica Michaels Designs

Crescent Colours Belle Soie

- ■ crème de menthe (520)
- # mudpie (3863)
- ◑ sister scarlet (304)
- ☾ vanilla pudding (3865)

Rainbow Gallery Splendor™

- . S802 white

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 40-count river willow linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 66H x 64W
Design size: 3 3/8" x 3 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of silk.

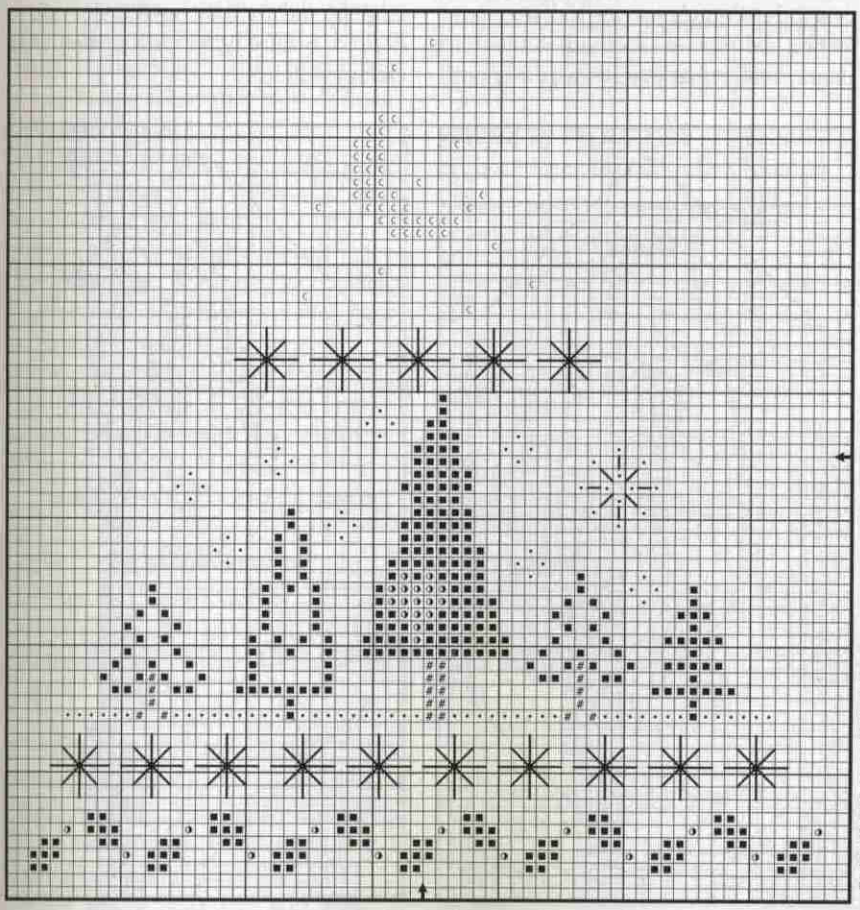
Backstitch over two threads, using one strand S802.

Work star stitch over ten threads, using one strand S802.

Photo is on page 18.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Backing was made using Weeks Dye Works™ #2158 juniper wool. Ribbon hanger was made using 1 yard Rainbow Gallery #R826 burgundy Splendor™ Silk Ribbon.

Erica Michaels Designs
344 Wells Court
Clarksville, TN 37043
e-mail: *emstitch@charter.net*
Web site: *www.ericamichaels.com*



©2007 Erica Michaels Designs

Quiet Night

Fancy Work

Jane Timmers

This ornament was inspired by the old German carol "O Tannenbaum". The tannenbaum is a fir tree, whose evergreen qualities have inspired musicians over the centuries to write several "tannenbaum" songs in German. The most well-known version was written in 1824 by a German organist named Ernst Anschüz to the melody of an old folk tune. There is a wonderful Web page that traces the history of the tannenbaum in both pagan and sacred traditions (*www.serve.com/shea/germusa/xmastree.htm*). I hope this ornament will inspire you to increase your stash of hand-dyed or over-dyed greens and have fun.

In the spirit of collecting greens, I would like to offer this wonderful salad for any time of year. My stitching friends have served this on several occasions, and it's always fantastic!

Cranberry Vinaigrette Salad

- 1/3 c. canola oil
- 1/4 c. seasoned rice vinegar
- 3/4 tsp. Dijon-style mustard
- 1 clove garlic, pressed
- 6 c. assorted salad greens, washed and dried
- 1 Granny Smith apple, sliced and cut in chunks
- 1/2 c. dried cranberries
- 1/2 c. pecans
- 1/2 c. gorgonzola cheese (or blue cheese)

In a lidded container, combine oil, rice vinegar, mustard, and garlic. Shake well.

In a large bowl, combine greens, fruits, pecans, and cheese. Toss well. Add dressing and toss immediately before serving.

Fancy Work
4233 Glenforest Way
Roswell, GA 30075
e-mail: *fancywork@bellsouth.net*
Web site: *www.fancywork.net*

O TANNENBAUM

Designed by Jane Timmers of Fancy Work

DMC® Anchor®

ℓ	3013	853	khaki green, lt.
/	3013	853	khaki green, lt. (half cross stitch)
▲	500	683	blue-green, vy. dk. (half cross stitch)

Gloriana Threads Silk Floss

○	016	holiday green
X	087	forest
✱	160	blythe green
#	062	cranberry

The Gentle Art Sampler Theads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	0140	(890)	blue spruce
@	1110	(3021)	sable
$	0150	(502)	evergreen (half cross stitch)

Fabric: Three 6" x 5" pieces 32-count sandstone linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 46H x 23W (per panel)
Design size: 2⅞" x 1½" (per panel)

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Work half cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch outer borders over two threads, using two strand 500.

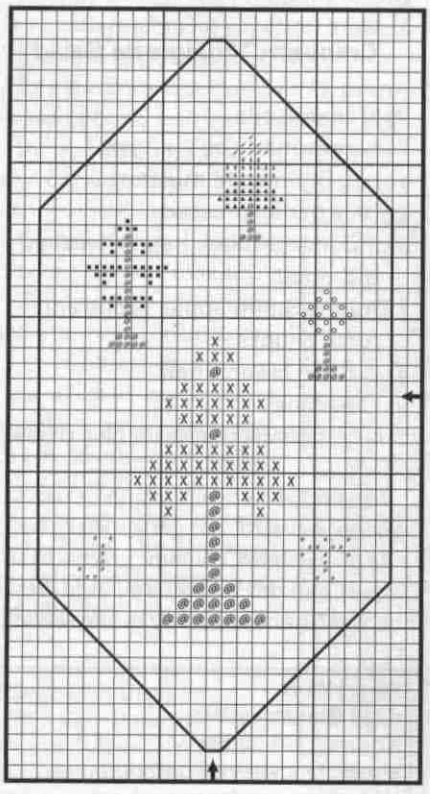
Photo is on page 18.

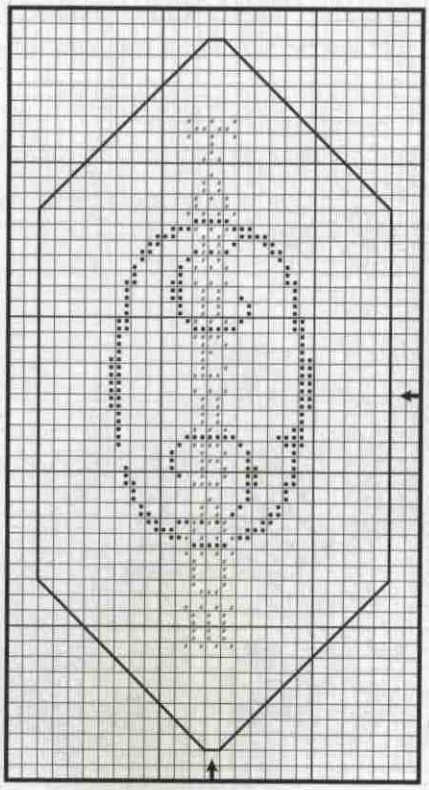
Finishing materials and instructions:

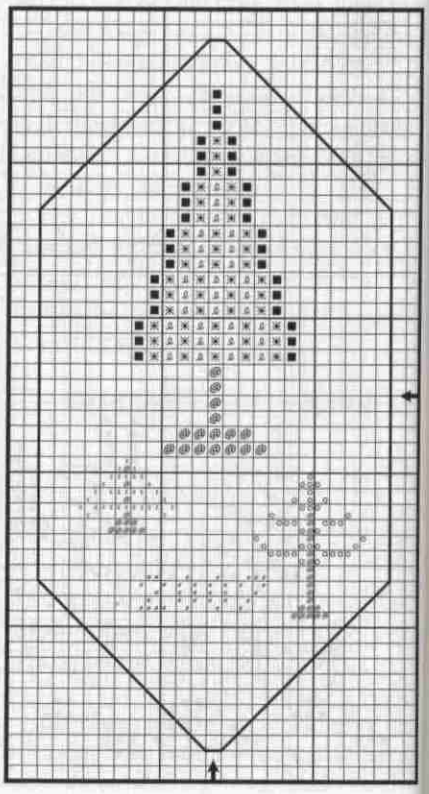
One package Delica (634 silver-lined topaz rainbow) size 15 seed beads
Lightweight fusible interfacing
Polyester fiberfill
Gloriana Threads (163 evergreen) 4mm silk ribbon

Trim each panel to eight threads beyond backstitched border. Cut three pieces of fusible interfacing to fit within backstitched border. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse interfacing to wrong side of each stitched panel. Finger-press seam allowance to wrong side along backstitched border.

Place two panels with wrong sides together. Beginning at top points, begin lacing panels together through backstitches, using one strand 500. Add a seed bead every other stitch on diagonal segments of backstitched border and every third stitch on vertical segments. When bottom is reached, add third panel and lace backstiches together until top is reached. Cut a 6" length from silk ribbon; knot ends to form a loop. Insert knotted end into top of ornament and secure with a tacking stitch. Begin lacing final sides together. When bottom is nearly reached, stuff ornament lightly with fiberfill; continue lacing remaining backstitches together. Cut remaining silk ribbon into three equal lengths. Thread each length through bottom point of ornament and tie into bows. Trim tails as desired. Secure bows with several small tacking stitches.







O Tannenbaum

Follow the Leader Designs

Colleen Leader

When my husband and I moved into our first home in November 2001, it was a "fixer upper," to say the least. Within the first week, we had gutted the entire house. We lived with no walls and walked on subfloor. When Christmastime rolled around, we were still under construction—and there was no way to decorate the house. A week before Christmas, I decided that, even though our house was a mess, we were still going to celebrate. I bought the biggest tree I could find and drug it through the front door. My husband was in shock when he came home from work to find a 10-foot Douglas fir decorated with paper chains and cardboard Christmas balls. It finally felt like Christmas.

All these years later, the house is finished. We have two children (Deane and Grace) as well as another who will make an appearance the month before Christmas 2007. The tree is wonderfully decorated now with many stitched ornaments and our children's creations. As beautiful as our tree is now, I will never forget that first tree and how it brought the spirit of the season into our home.

Chocolate Oreo Cookie Balls

1 (18-oz.) pkg. Oreo® cookies
1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese
1 (14-oz.) pkg. ready-to-melt white chocolate, such as Wilton's Candy Melts® in white

Set aside four whole cookies. Place remaining cookies in the work bowl of a food processor; process until crumbly. Add cream cheese. Pulse until dough begins to stick together.

Shape into a large ball and wrap in waxed paper. Chill in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes. Cover one cookie sheet with waxed paper. Remove from refrigerator and roll into small teaspoon-size balls; place on prepared cookie sheet. Place cookie sheet in freezer for 30 minutes.

Following manufacturer's instructions, melt chocolate. Dip each ball into melted chocolate and return to cookie sheet. In the work bowl of a food processor, pulse reserved cookies; sprinkle on top of chocolate for a decorative look.

Return cookie balls to freezer for no more than 30 minutes. Store in an airtight container and enjoy. Be careful—these are addictive!

O CHRISTMAS TREE SCISSORS CASE AND FOB

Designed by Colleen Leader of Follow the Leader

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	0305	(814)	mulberry
@	0440	(3863)	maple syrup
X	0110	(987)	dried thyme

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	7003	(469)	shutter green

Fabric: 10" x 10" piece 32-count flax Belfast® linen from Wichelt Imports

Stitch count: 76H x 31W (scissors case)
47H x 55W (fob)

Design size: 2 3/8" x 1" (scissors case)
1 1/2" x 1 3/4" (fob)

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

Work horizontal elongated cross stitch for border on fob design, using one strand 7003.

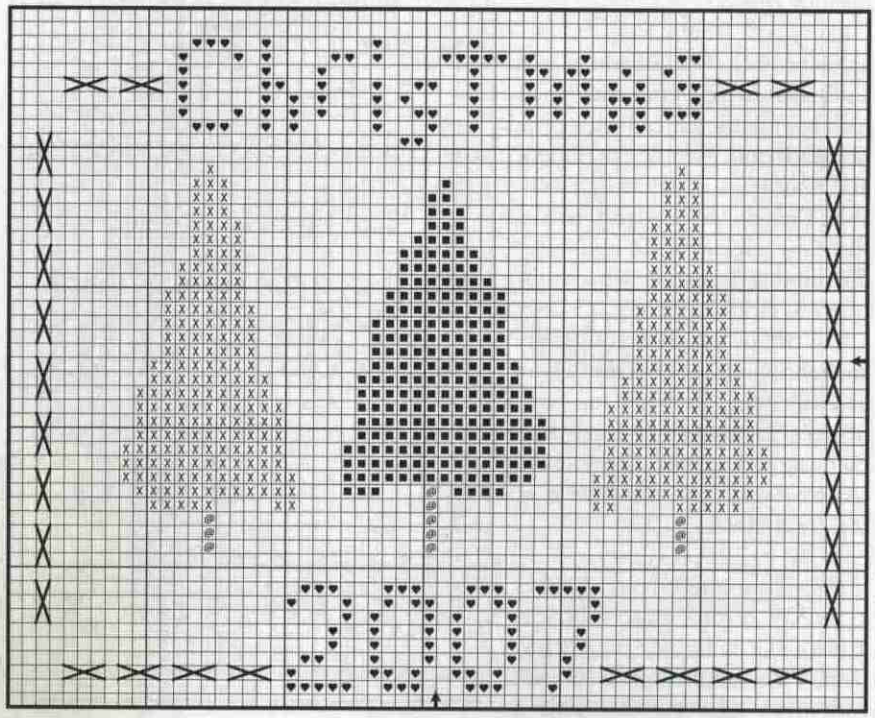
Photo is on page 18.

Finishing materials and instructions:

12" x 18" green silk fabric
10" x 10" piece Warm & Natural® cotton batting
3" x 2" piece fusible interfacing
Two (3314 golden star) Just Another Button Company™ buttons
One package Mill Hill® #05025 ruby pebble beads
1 yd. 3/8"-diameter silk ribbon
12" length 1/4"-diameter silk ribbon
Washer or coin for weight
Polyester fiberfill

Scissors Case – Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse interfacing to wrong side of stitched piece. Trim stitched piece to measure 4"H x 2 1/2"W.

Using tree template on this page, cut out two pieces from green silk and one piece from batting. Cut a 4" x 2 1/2" rectangle from green silk.



O Christmas Tree Fob Chart

©2007 Follow the Leader Designs

To create pocket, place stitched piece and 4" x 2½" silk piece with right sides together. Sew together along three sides, leaving the bottom open for turning. Trim seam allowances to ¼" and turn right side out. Turn in bottom seam allowance and blind stitch opening closed.

Center stitched piece on one silk tree shape. Using two strands coordinating silk floss, work blanket stitch along sides and bottom to join stitched piece to tree, leaving top open to create a pocket for scissors.

Note: If desired, stitch "Christmas 2007" scissors fob design twice and apply second piece to back of scissors case. To use fob design on back of scissors case, trim to ½" from stitching on all sides and turn under ¼" seam allowance. Blind stitch to remaining silk tree piece.

Place tree shapes with right sides together. Sew together, using a ¼" seam allowance and leaving an opening for turning. Clip corners and turn right-side out.

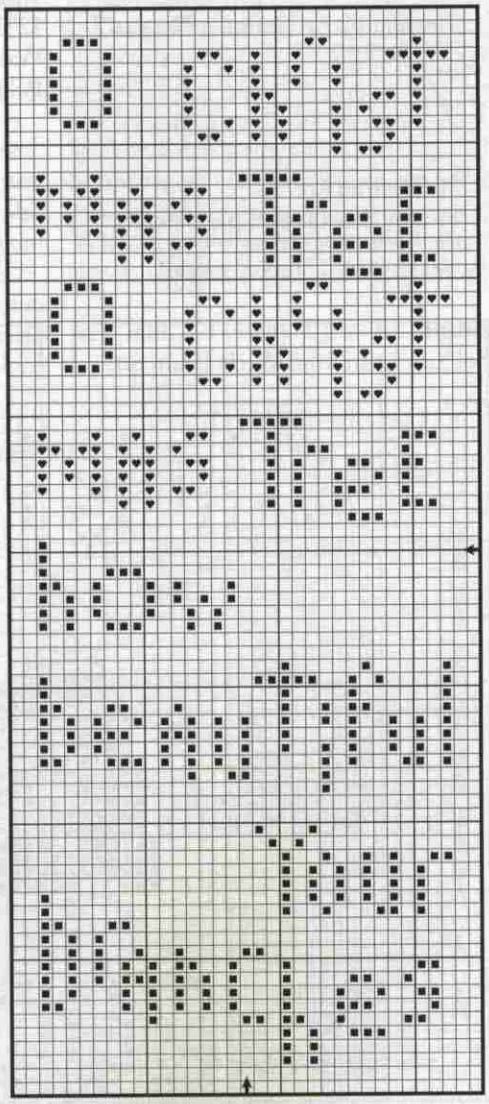
Fold length of ¼"-diameter ribbon in half. Knot cut ends together and thread folded edge through a large tapestry needle. Slide needle into opening in tree, piercing seam at top point of tree and pulling looped hanger through fabric. Trim ⅛" from all sides of tree-shaped batting piece and insert batting into tree. Blind stitch opening closed.

Cut a 12" length from ⅜"-diameter ribbon. Fold ribbon in half and secure to top of tree with small tacking stitches. Thread three pebble beads onto each side of ribbon, and knot ends individually to secure. Tack ribbon to edge of tree in three even intervals on each side, distributing beads in each section between tacking stitches.

Cut two 6" lengths from ⅜" diameter ribbon. Tie each into a bow and tack to top-front and top-back of tree. Slide a pebble bead onto each cut end of bows and knot to secure. Attach one star button at top-front of tree.

Fob – Trim stitched piece to 2"H x 2½"W. From green silk, cut a piece the same size as stitched piece. Place stitched piece and silk with right sides together. Fold a 12" length of ⅜"-diameter ribbon in half; place cut ends between stitched piece and silk fabric, with cut ends even with top of fob. Sew together along sides and top, using a ¼" seam allowance, taking care to catch silk ribbon in stitches along top edge only. Take care that the rest of ribbon is not caught in seam allowance. Turn right-side out. Finger press and turn in bottom seam allowance. Stuff lightly with fiberfill and insert washer or coin for weight; blind stitch opening closed. Attach one star button to ribbon hanger and slide two pebble beads onto hanger.

Follow the Leader Designs
Post Office Box 30006
Elkins Park, PA 19027
e-mail:
colleen@followtheleaderdesigns.com
Web site:
www.followtheleaderdesigns.com



O Christmas Tree Scissors Case Chart

©2007 Follow the Leader Designs

Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

Lauren Sauer

Here are some of my happy Christmas memories: being chosen to be an "angel" in the pageants at Gilbert Elementary School; making miles and miles of paper chains, woven paper Swedish hearts, and folded paper Moravian stars; stringing popcorn and cranberries; guilding walnuts and sea shells to hang on the tree; making and baking and decorating dozens upon dozens upon endless dozens of cookies; Dad addressing hundreds of cards (his handwriting was exquisite); singing in the choir at West Side Church at the candlelight midnight services on Christmas Eve; making spiced applesauce "clay" ornaments stuck with cloves; hikes in winter-clad woods; pomander oranges and lemons; balsam-filled sachets; sleigh rides with Grandpa Sauer; making an ice rink in our parking lot; annual visits to see Santa; holiday department store window displays in Cleveland and New York; death-defying sled rides down Brookside Hill; wrapping presents and hiding them; festive clothes; Mom in fancy aprons; a "cousins carole sing" for our grandparents; and snow on Christmas Day.

How many of these do we share, dear reader? Happy Christmas!

Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches
Post Office Box 606077
Cleveland, OH 44106
e-mail: *laurenatfmnis@earthlink.net*
Web site:
www.forgetmenotsinstitches.com

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Designed by Lauren Sauer
of Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

The Gentle Art
Simply Shaker Sample Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥ 7036	(3832)	geranium (Smyrna cross stitch)
@ 7036	(3832)	geranium
◑ 7023	(3815)	green pasture (Smyrna cross stitch)
X 7023	(3815)	green pasture
☆ 7020	(744)	butternut squash (Smyrna cross stitch)
⁂ 7020	(744)	butternut squash
✳ 7049	(543)	lamb's wool (Smyrna cross stitch)
~ 7049	(543)	lamb's wool
■ 7022	(3740)	grape arbor (Smyrna cross stitch)
✦ 7022	(3740)	grape arbor
△ 7025	(3033)	Shaker white (Smyrna cross stitch)
ℓ 7025	(3033)	Shaker white
7043	(3031)	cinders

The Thread Gatherer
Silken Ribbon
063 in the reds

Fabric: Two 6" x 6" pieces 32-count natural brown linen from Norden Crafts, Ltd.
Stitch count: 52H x 52W
Design size: 3½" x 3½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Work backstitch over four threads for zig-zag border, using one strand 7043.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work four-sided stitch over two threads for letters, using one strand 7043.

Work stem stitch where heavy lines appear for heart, using one strand 7036.

Work horizontal satin stitch over two threads for candle stick, using two strands 7025.

Work lazy-daisy stitch for candle's flame, using one strand 7020. (**Note:** Work first lazy-daisy stitch over two threads; work second lazy-daisy stitch over four threads.)

Work Scotch stitch over six threads for gift, using one strand 7025.

Referring to photograph for placement, attach a length of Silken Ribbon on gift; tie into a bow and trim ends. Dab a bit of Fray Check on knot to secure.

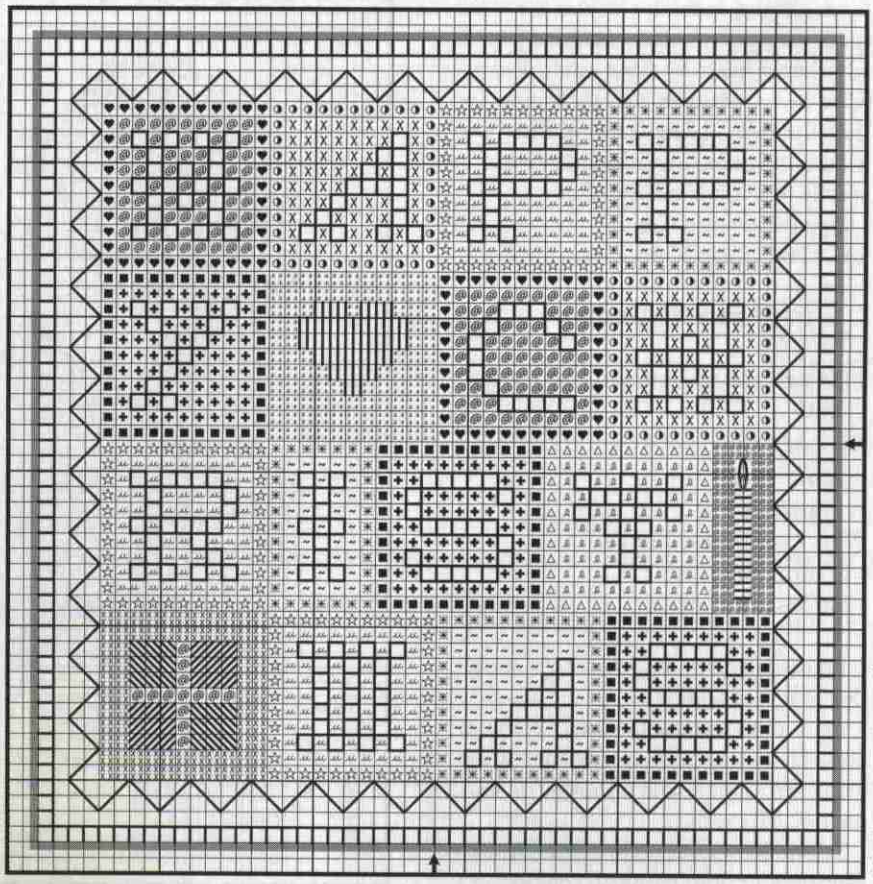
Withdraw fifth linen thread from outside edge of zig-zag border. (**Note:** Design area is 104 threads square.) Prepare second piece of linen, withdrawing threads to make it the same size.

Personalize second piece of linen, as desired.

Photo is on page 21.

Finishing instructions: Withdraw fifth fabric thread beyond zig-zag border (represented by gray lines on chart) on all sides. Repeat for second piece of fabric.

With wrong sides together, align withdraw-thread areas of linen. Work nun's stitch over two threads to join pieces together, using one strand 7043. Insert a 3½" x 3½" piece of cardboard between layers before working nun's stitch along fourth side. (**Note:** Adjust cardboard size to fit within the nun's stitch border, as necessary.) Trim away fabric beyond nun's stitch border. Hanger was made using four strands 7043.



©2007 Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

Happy Christmas

Full Circle Designs

Lynda Watkins

Tree trimming was truly "an event" at my house. On the night that we were to decorate "the most beautiful tree ever," Mom would forgo the usual healthy dinner meal and instead would set up a table loaded with special snacks and finger food. She would heat up the water for our favorite holiday drinks (Tom and Jerry's) and turn on the Christmas music. The stage was set! We each seemed to have our own area of expertise. Dad hung the lights, Mom and sister hung the ornaments, and I was the "tinsel hanger." I was the only one who actually enjoyed hanging tinsel one strand at a time, placing each one in just the right spot. That doesn't really surprise people who know me now as an adult. I've always loved creating and perfection (at least the "idea" of perfection). The time it takes to make something beautiful is exactly what gives me the most pleasure. I hope you enjoy stitching "The Decorator." Have a very Merry Christmas!

Chocolate Cookies

1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
1 (12-oz.) pkg. semisweet chocolate morsels
1/2 c. margarine
1 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
1 c. chopped nuts
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a cookie sheet and set aside.

In a microwaveable bowl, combine milk, chocolate morsels, and margarine. Heat on High for 2 minutes, or until melted. Mix well.

Stir in flour, nuts, and vanilla. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto prepared cookie sheet.

Bake for 8–10 minutes.

THE DECORATOR

Designed by Lynda Watkins
of Full Circle Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
~	225	1026	shell pink, ul. vy. lt.
■	310	403	black
♭	368	214	pistachio green, lt.
☆	834	874	golden olive, vy. lt.
▲	801	359	coffee brown, dk.
♥	815	44	garnet, med.
ℓ	677	361	old gold, vy. lt.
◐	930	1035	antique blue, dk.
@	3362	263	pine green, dk.
✳	3853	1001	autumn gold, dk.
.	blanc	2	white
	500	683	blue-green, vy. dk.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count Fratelli Graziano Milan light gray linen from Norden Crafts, Ltd.
Stitch count: 59H x 51W
Design size: 4 1/4" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work running stitch for border, using one strand 815/44.

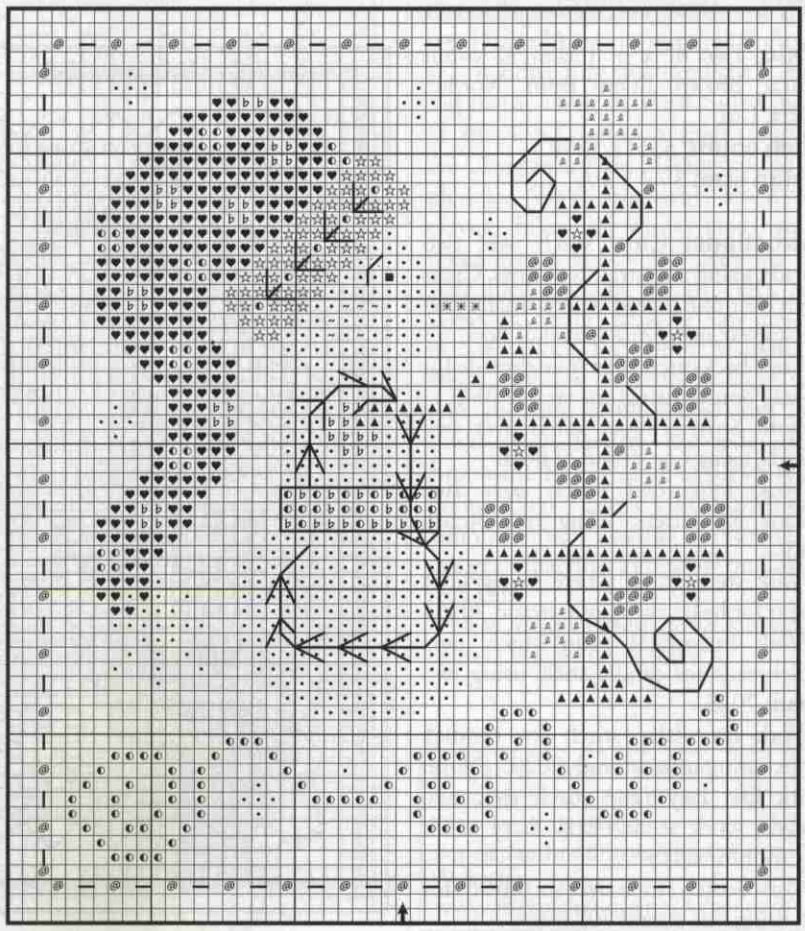
Photo is on page 22.

Backstitch instructions:

500	683	vine on tree
930	1035	belt
310	403	eye
3362	263	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Trim linen to 1/2" from stitched border. Finger press 1/4" seam allowance to back. Blind stitch to pillow made from Weeks Dye Works™ #2104 deep sea wool. Pillow-ornament finishing instructions are on page 101. If desired, attach a Hill Creek Designs button (#200 small ivory) in each corner. Bow and hanger were made using purchased 1 1/2" white silver wired ribbon.

Full Circle Designs
1313 Jamestown Drive
Tahlequah, OK 74464
e-mail: *email@fullcirclestitces.com*
Web site: *www.fullcirclestitches.com*



The Decorator

©2007 Full Circle Designs

Gentle Pursuit Designs

Jaenn (Cissy) Bailey Smith

The verse on my sampler ornament, "Thy Works Are Good," comes from a Shaker letter. The letter was written by a Shaker sister to her friend commending the work of her friend's hands. In time, our Christmas baby in the manger became our gift of salvation from God—the work of His hands. With this ornament, I celebrate the gift of all the babies that have come into my life, my own dear children, my nieces and nephews, and now, my grandchildren and grandniece!

My special Christmas memory is from last year. After a year filled with challenges, I was able to transfer and move to Fort Mill, South Carolina, in late November. Why Fort Mill? So I could be closer to my daughter and her family who live 30 minutes away in Matthews, North Carolina. Jenny and Mike's fifth wedding anniversary was December 8th, so I suggested that two-year old Connor come and stay with me so they could have the evening to themselves. They slipped out as Connor and I ate supper, and then the fun began! We colored, played magnetos, read books, danced with my twisting snowman, threw balls, and chased Miss Cora (my dog) around the house. We were both worn out when we snuggled down to watch *The Polar Express* side by side on the sofa with the Christmas tree glowing softly in the corner. The wonder of Christmas and warmth of that time together is now a favorite memory.

I'm sharing my pound cake recipe with you this year, just in case you don't have one. It took me six months of begging 38 years ago to get the recipe, and it was well worth the groveling! Cover it with fudge or caramel frosting, with strawberries and whipping cream, or use it as the base for a hot fudge sundae and you can't go wrong!

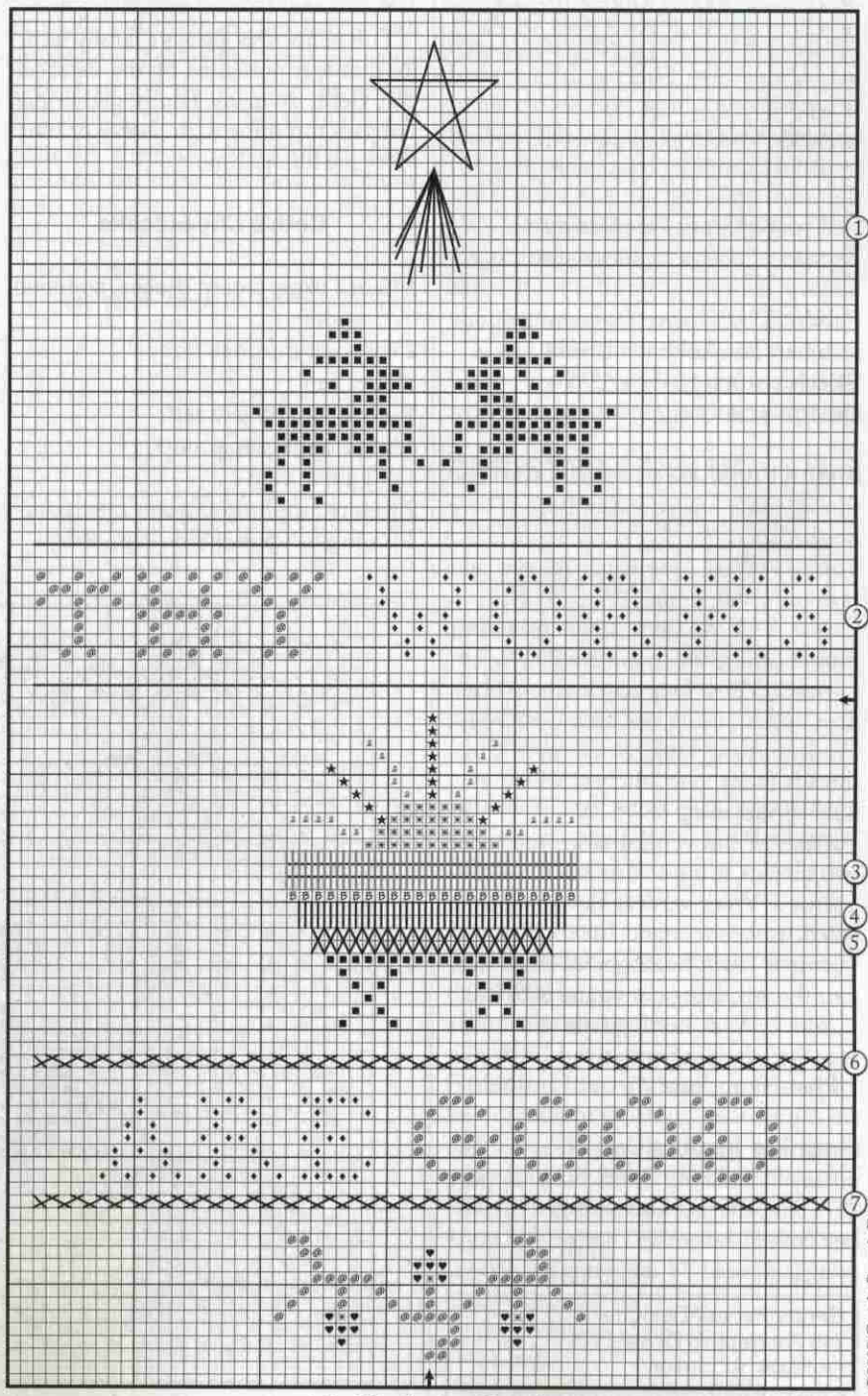
Vanilla Pound Cake

1 c. butter, softened
3 c. sugar
½ c. shortening
5 eggs
½ tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 c. milk
4 c. cake flour

Preheat oven to 325°. Grease a tube pan or Bundt® pan and set aside.

In a mixing bowl, combine butter, sugar, and shortening; mix well. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Add baking powder and salt; mix well.

In a small bowl, stir together vanilla and milk. Add half of milk mixture and half of flour to butter mixture; mix well. Add remaining flour and milk; mix well, being careful not to overmix.



Thy Works Are Good

©2007 Gentle Pursuit Designs

Pour batter into prepared tube pan and bake for 1 hour and 30 minutes. For a Bundt pan, bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Cool for 10 minutes before turning out of the pan.

THY WORKS ARE GOOD

Designed by Cissy Bailey Smith of Gentle Pursuit Designs

	Anchor®	DMC®	
♥	22	815	burgundy, vy. dk.
◆	924	731	olive green, vy. dk.
B	889	610	sand stone, med. dk.
@	846	3011	fern green, dk.
ℓ	891	676	brass
■	1088	838	taupe, vy. dk.
★	901	680	brass, med.

	Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4	
✳	221	antique gold

Fabric: 7" x 5" piece 36-count magnolia linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 104H x 63W
Design size: 3" x 1¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss or very fine braid.

Area 1–Work long stitch for star and rays, using one strand 221.

Area 2–Work stem stitch over four threads, using one strand 1008/838.

Area 3–Work long stitch where black lines appear, using one strand 889/610. Work vertical satin stitch over three threads (atop long stitches) where gray lines appear, using 889/610.

Area 4–Work vertical satin stitch over two threads, using one strand 1088/838.

Area 5–Work vertical elongated cross stitch, using one strand 1088/838.

Area 6–Work herringbone stitch over four threads, using one strand 889/610.

Area 7–Work herringbone stitch over four threads, using one strand 1008/838.

Photo is on page 27.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 117. Template provided on page 116. Ribbon embellishment and hanger was made using purchased ¼" burgundy silk ribbon.

Gentle Pursuit Designs
745 Petersburg Drive
Fort Mill, SC 29708
e-mail: *jbsmith224@comporium.net*

Glory Bee

Nancy Boyarsky

This recipe was always a family favorite that was presented by my sister-in-law, Beth, at many family gatherings. I always top mine with cherry or blueberry pie filling. Enjoy!

Beth's Cheesecake

2 (8-oz.) pkgs. cream cheese, softened
½ c. sugar
2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
¼ tsp. salt
1½ tsp. vanilla extract
4 large eggs, separated
1 c. light cream
2 (9-inch) graham-cracker piecrusts
Topping of your choice (optional)

Preheat oven to 325°.

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Add sugar, flour, salt, and vanilla; beat until smooth. Add egg yolks and beat well. Stir in cream.

In a separate bowl, whip egg whites until stiff. Gently fold into cream-cheese mixture. Divide batter between piecrusts.

Bake for 45 minutes, or until tops are fluffy and slightly browned.

Top with canned pie fillings or other toppings.

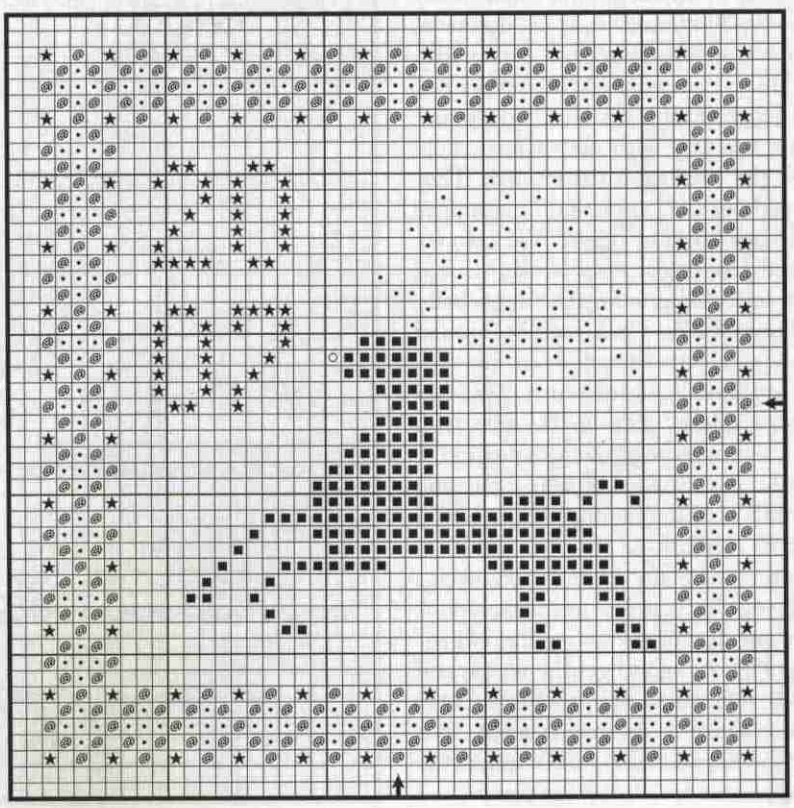
RUDY

Designed by Nancy Boyarsky of Glory Bee

	DMC®	Anchor®	
★	816	43	garnet
@	367	216	pistachio green, dk.
■	938	381	coffee brown, ul. dk.
.	ecru	387	ecru

	Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads	
○	02013	red

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 30-count natural Northern Cross linen from Norden Crafts, Ltd.
Stitch count: 45H x 45W
Design size: 3" x 3"



Rudy

©2007 Glory Bee

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Attach bead, using one strand ecru/387 and a full cross stitch.

Photo is on page 25.

Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Edge was embellished using 1/4" wide white satin ribbon. Twisted cording trim and hanger was made using DMC® Pearl Cotton #5. Twisted cording instructions appear on page 70. Twenty-four medium white-head pins were inserted into twisted cording at even intervals.

Finished by Lois Mouriski of Elegant Stitch

Glory Bee
49 Pine Road
Ashby, MA 01431
e-mail: *nancy@glorybeestitch.com*
Web site: *www.glorybeestitch.com*

Hands to Work

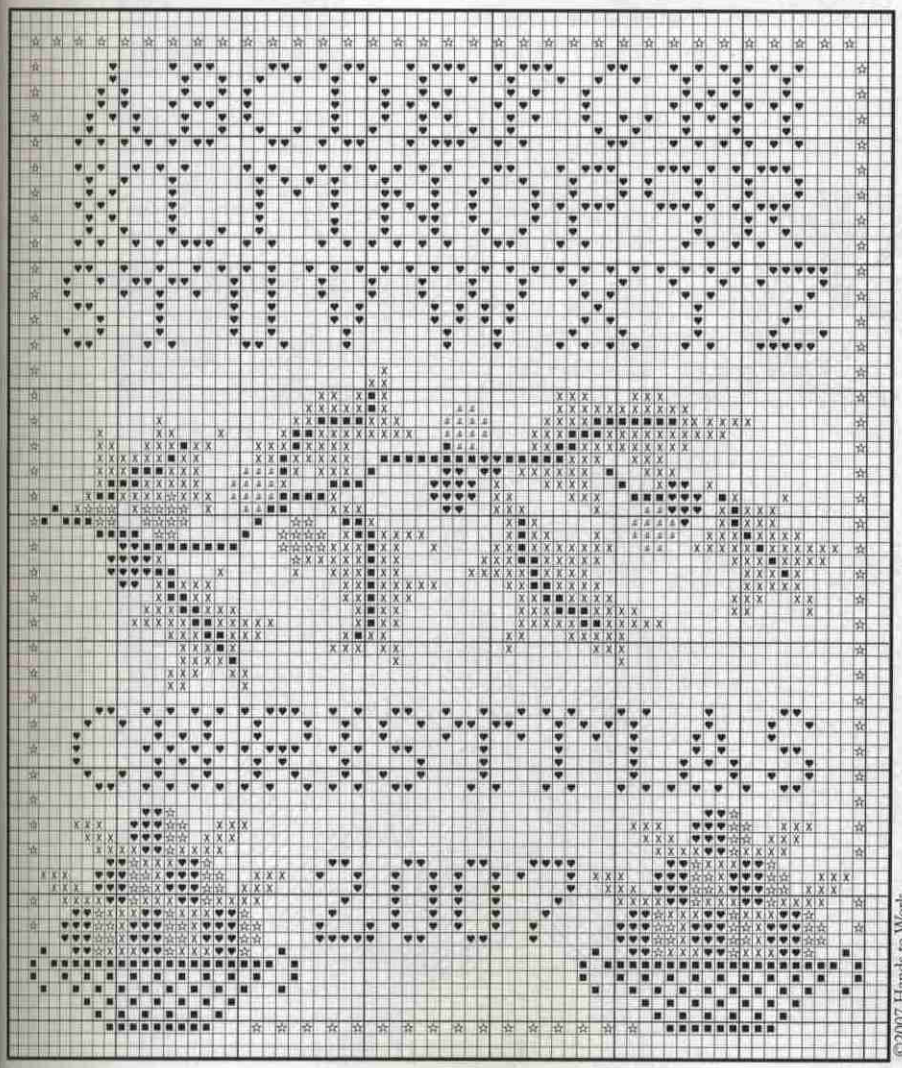
Tracy Riffle

Christmas—the most exciting time of year. There are many things that give me chills and make me feel happy with anticipation. Seeing the wrapping paper stacked up and ready to use, the special gifts waiting for their boxes and wrapping, the smells of cookies fresh from the oven, the classical Christmas music in the background, and the best thing of all is the smell of a freshly cut tree! How I love the tree!

I have three trees in my house. Two

are artificial twig trees and have somewhat of a theme to them. The real tree is extra special with its design. I put every ornament that I love on it...from the awkward paper ornaments with a toothy fourth-grade picture on the front to the tacky plastic Disney characters from long-ago vacations. Every time I go through the process of unwrapping and hanging each one, I am transported back to an earlier time with my children, my husband, and my siblings. Each memory is a gift, and most only come to mind when decorating the tree. Yes, there is a hint of sadness at how quickly time has passed, and now I am decorating the tree alone. But the future holds such promise of little ones to come and help again.

Merry Christmas to all of you, and here's wishing you special memories with each ornament placed on your tree!



Christmas Holly

CHRISTMAS HOLLY

Designed by Tracy Rifle of Hands to Work

Crescent Colours Belle Soie
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

☆	cinnamon stick	(435)
♥	rose of Sharon	(221)
X	crème de menthe	(3816)
■	mudpie	(839)
ℓ	sister scarlet	(304)

Fabric: 6" x 5" piece 40-count vintage maple sugar linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 79H x 68W
Design size: 2" x 1 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

Photo is on page 10.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Twisted cording was made using DMC® 221. Twisted cording instructions appear on page 70.

Hands to Work
203 Camellia Court
Stephens City, VA 22655
e-mail: *riffletracy@aol.com*
Web site:
www.handstowork.typepad.com

©2007 Hands to Work

HeartStrings/ The Artists Collection

Pat Thode

Sometimes we just need a really good, easy recipe for the holiday season. I came to my marriage with this one many, many moons ago.

Rocky Mountain Candy

2 lbs. vanilla-flavored candy coating
1 c. peanut butter
2 c. dry-roasted peanuts
2 c. mini marshmallows
3 c. Kellogg's® Rice Krispies®

In a large microwaveable bowl, melt candy coating according to manufacturer's directions. Stir in peanut butter and mix completely. Add peanuts, marshmallows, and Rice Krispies; stir together. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto waxed paper and allow to cool.

Store in a covered container in a cool place.

SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS

Designed by Pat Thode
of HeartStrings/The Artists Collection

DMC® Anchor®

@	304	19	red, med.
♡	3354	74	dusty rose, lt.
◆	3350	77	dusty rose, ul. dk.
a	3755	140	baby blue
◑	311	148	navy blue, med.
3	3820	306	straw, dk.
(	3774	778	desert sand, vy. lt.
ℓ	950	4146	desert sand, lt.
+	434	310	brown, lt.
▲	433	358	brown, med.
b	801	359	coffee brown, dk.
–	B5200	1	snow white
.	3865	2	winter white
■	310	403	black
	321	47	red
	318	235	steel gray, lt.

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

♥	061	ruby
☆	001	silver

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

X	0120 (501)	pine
	0140 (500)	blue spruce

Just Another Button Company™

4447.T	tiny holly

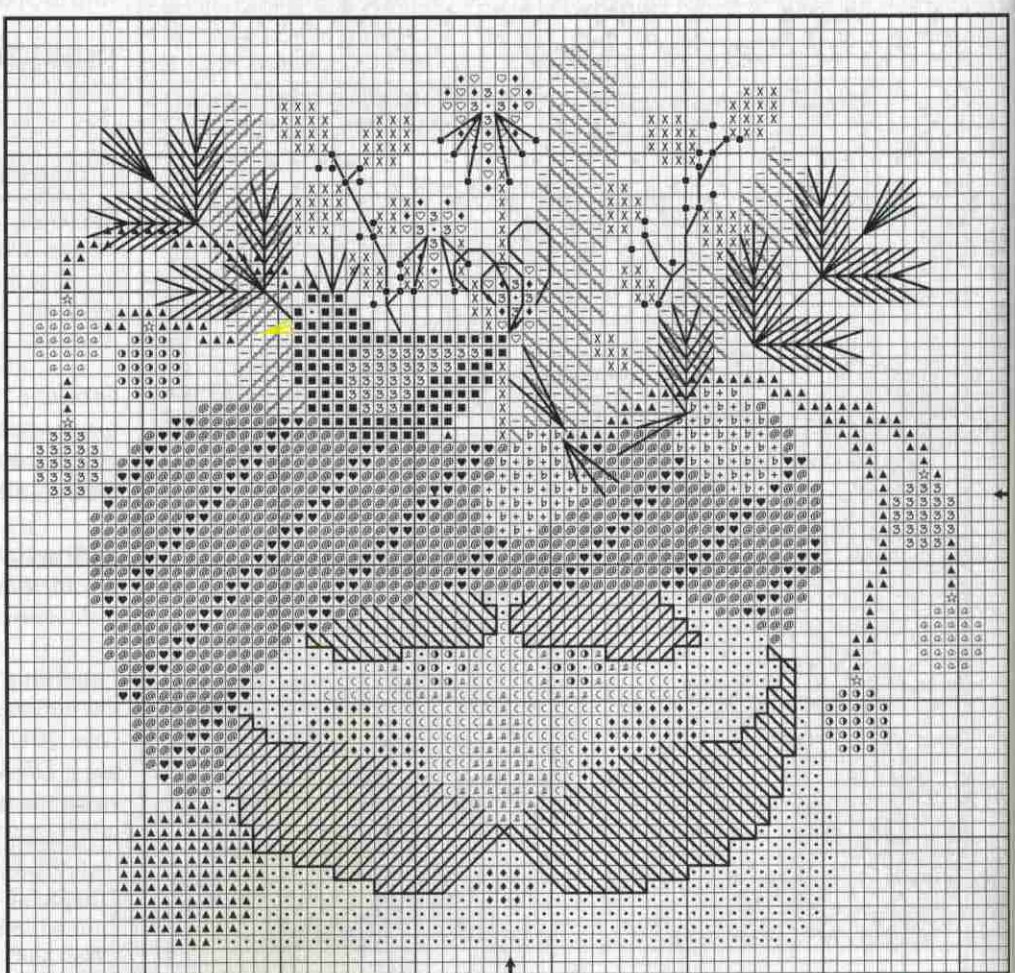
Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 32-count natural light linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 66H x 70W
Design size: $4\frac{1}{8}$" x $4\frac{3}{8}$"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

Backstitch over two theads, using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Work long stitch, using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Work French knots where • appears, using two strands of floss, unless otherwise indicated, and wrapping floss around needle. If desired, work French knots instead of cross stitch for pom



Symbols of Christmas

pom of hat, using three strands 433/358.

Referring to photo on page 16 for placement, attach button on bird's wing, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Backstitch instructions:

318	235	moustache, eyebrows (gray lines)
321	47	candy canes (gray lines; two strands)
310	403	bird's tail (two strands)
0120		holly branches

Long stitch instructions:

3865	2	moustache, eyebrows (three strands)
3820	306	flower stamens, bird's beak (two strands)
0140		pine needles and branches

French-knot instructions:

433	358	pom pom on hat (three strands)
3820	306	ends of flower stamens
304	19	holly berries

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Attach star buttons in corners if desired.

HeartStrings/The Artists Collection
2128 Grand Boulevard
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
e-mail: *heartstrings@cfu.net*

Heritage Series

Margot Cook

Our Christmas dinner would not be complete without one of the starters being the following cheese ball. They also make wonderful gifts!

SNOWFLAKE 2007

Designed by Margot Cook of Heritage Series

Kreinik® Fine Braid #8

X 032 opalescent pearl

Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads

○ 00479 white

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 14-count antique blue Aida from Charles Craft
Stitch count: 38H x 38W
Design size: 2¾" x 2¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using one strand of fine braid.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a half cross stitch.

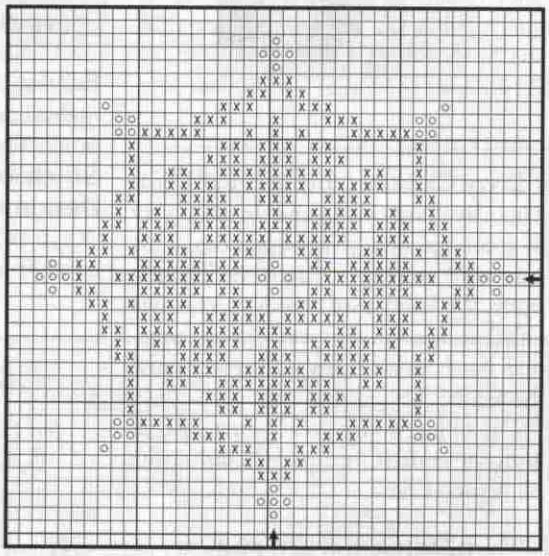
Photo is on page 29.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Trim was purchased. Twisted cording for hanger was made using 032. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Party Cheese Ball

2 (8-oz.) pkgs. cream cheese, softened
1 (8-oz.) pkg. sharp Cheddar cheese, shredded
1 Tbsp. chopped pimiento
1 Tbsp. chopped green pepper
1 Tbsp. minced onion
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. lemon juice
1 dash cayenne pepper or paprika
1 dash salt
Finely chopped pecans

In the work bowl of a food processor, combine cheeses; pulse until well blended. Add pimiento, green pepper, onion, Worcestershire sauce, lemon juice, cayenne, and salt; mix well. Chill. Shape into a ball and roll in chopped pecans.



Snowflake 2007

©2007 Heritage Series

Heritage Series
1603 Myrtle Road
Silver Spring, MD 20902-5722
e-mail: *heartstrings@cfu.net*

Homespun Elegance Ltd.

Sandra Sullivan

Every Christmas, Lehmer and I host a holiday dinner party, and we always try to come up with a new appetizer. This past year, we made Bacon & Tomato Puffs. We know they were a success, not only because the tray was quickly emptied, but because many guests requested the recipe.

The filling is also great when used as a dip or stuffed into portobello mushrooms and baked.

Bacon & Tomato Puffs

8 slices bacon
1 tomato, seeded and chopped
1/2 medium onion, finely chopped
3 oz. shredded Swiss cheese
1/2 c. mayonnaise
1 tsp. dried basil
1 (16-oz.) can refrigerated buttermilk biscuit dough

Preheat oven to 375°. Spray a 12-cup muffin pay with nonstick cooking spray; set aside.

In a large skillet over medium heat on stovetop, cook bacon until crisp; drain. Crumble bacon into a medium bowl. Mix in tomato, onion, cheese, mayonnaise, and basil.

Split biscuits in half horizontally. Press each round into prepared muffin tin. Fill with bacon mixture.

Bake for 10–12 minutes, or until golden brown. Repeat with remaining biscuits and filling.

These can be rewarmed or frozen, if needed.

HEART OF JOY

Designed by Sandra Sullivan of Homespun Elegance

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

☆	1223 (830)	schneckley
@	2240 (3777)	red rocks
✱	1276 (500)	blue spruce
■	4129 (3371)	swamp water

Homespun Elegance Brass Charms
- ● open crown
- ◆ classic crown

Fabric: 9" x 6" piece 28-count mockingbird over-dyed linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 60H x 39W
Design size: 4 3/8" x 2 7/8"

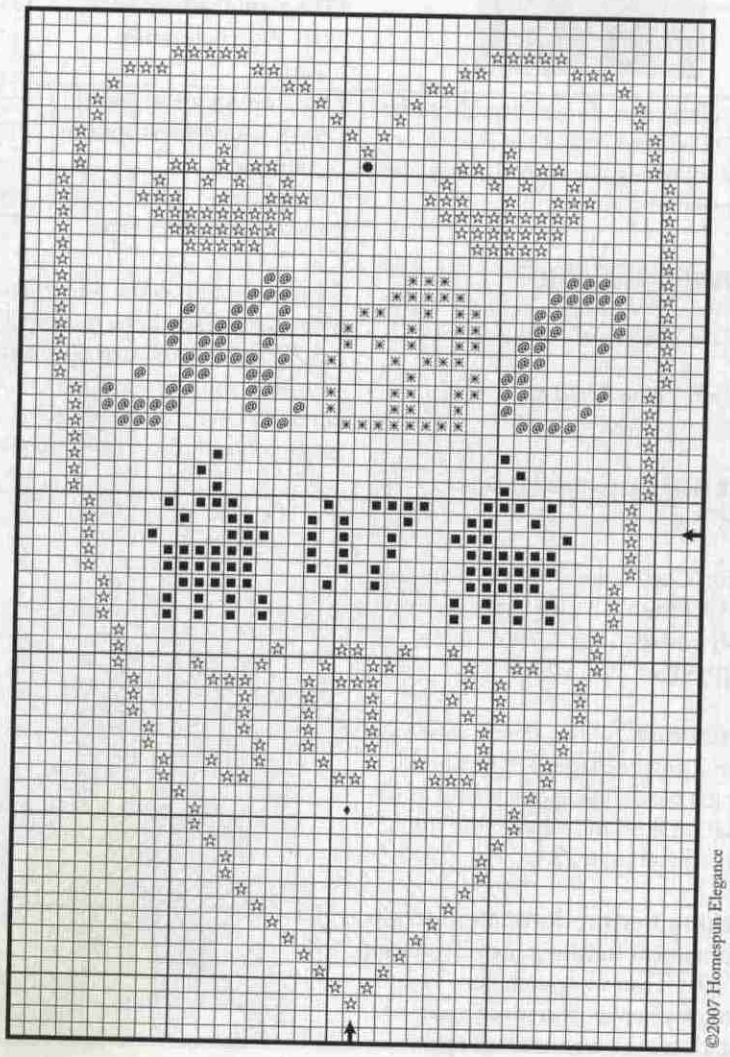
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Attach charms, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 14.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Trim was made by braiding twelve lengths of DMC® 355 and six lengths of Kreinik® 002C cord, leaving a 3" tail for tassel.

Homespun Elegance Ltd.
11047 Pierson Drive, Suite I
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
e-mail: *stitching@homespunelegance.com*
Web site: *www.homespunelegance.com*



©2007 Homespun Elegance

Heart of Joy

Imaginating, Inc.

Diane Arthurs

A Wacky Woman is wacky, wild, and wonderful. For the average person, Christmas starts in November or as early as July; but for the Wacky Woman, the Christmas season starts the day after Christmas. She begins with the "Day After Christmas Sales," scouring the aisles for discounts that will make her next Christmas even more memorable.

The Wacky Woman may have a lull in shopping during the spring months, but that's the time she is thinking of all the gifts she will be making for her loved ones. She searches for the latest recipes for cookies, candies, and delectable edible treats; and she then makes and tests these new recipes. Many trips are taken to the craft stores to explore the latest trends and techniques for packaging, decorating, and wrapping.

The summer months are filled with gardening and making sure her crops are abundant so she can preserve the fruits of her labor with jams, jellies, and her award-winning "crispy butter pickles" in the fall. The Wacky Woman also begins making all her hand made gifts. This is also the time to start collecting the lists of what the kids want for Christmas.

It's fall, and the Wacky Woman is beginning the countdown for Christmas. The first week of October, she pulls all the outdoor lighting for her holiday extravaganza out of storage. She knows that she has a window of opportunity to get everything hung before the brisk winds and snow begins to blow. The only outdoor decorations left to do later is fill the baskets and tubs on the porch with boughs of greenery and hang a wreath on the door.

Come November, the Wacky Woman is in full swing for Christmas. Early in the month, any gifts that have been bought are wrapped meticulously. The cookie dough is mixed, wrapped tightly, and put in the freezer to be baked later. On Thanksgiving Day, time is put aside to search the newspaper for all the super hot deals that will happen at 6 am on Black Friday. The Wacky Woman writes down her plan of attack, where she will begin her shopping. It's also the day to flip the switch on her outdoor lighting display.

December—let the countdown begin! The Wacky Woman is truly at her wackiest. She begins the month decorating every corner of her house inside and out, including a tree in every room. The baking of thousands of cookies begins. The Christmas cards are written, stamped, and mailed. From morning 'til night, until the 24th, the Wacky Woman is busy—cooking, baking, decorating, wrapping, gifting, party hopping, and toasting the season. She is the woman who has taken the holiday to the extreme and most of us call her "Mom." May you truly always be and surround yourself with Wacky Women and take time to enjoy the reason for the season!

Imaginating, Inc.
Post Office Box 156
Rootstown, OH 44272
e-mail: *imag8ing@aol.com*
Web site: *www.imaginating.com*

Wacky Holiday

©2007 Imaginating, Inc.

KEEPSAKE
NeedleArts™

Treat Yourself Every Month with the New Stitchery of the Month Clubs

Bouquet Samplers Club
Flowers will bloom for your pleasure from January to December in these vintage-inspired samplers. Each month, for 12 months, you'll receive a ***counted cross-stitch*** kit with Maria Gossard's directions, 28-ct hand-dyed sand linen, carded hand-dyed cotton floss, needle, chart and directions. A 9¾" x 9¾" painted wood frame sold separately will lend an antique touch.
#72400, 29.99 per month
Frame, #94320, 49.99 each

Calendar Cats Club
Take a merry year-long trip with these whimsical balls of fluff. Each month, for 12 months, you'll receive a ***counted cross-stitch*** kit with Margaret Sherry's directions, 14-ct antique-white Aida cloth, carded cotton floss, needle, chart and directions. 8" x 8" unmatted. From England. **#72600, 27.99 per month**

Tie-One-On Pillows Club
Enhance your decor through the year with pretty pillow shams. For each of 12 months, you'll receive Sandra Workman's chart and directions, cotton floss, needle, and a pre-sewn, ribbon-tie pillow sham with 10-ct Heatherfield 4½" x 4½" ***counted cross-stitch*** insert. The first month also includes a 10" x 7" quilted-fabric pillow form.
#72550, 29.99 for the first month, 19.99 per month thereafter
Extra pillow form, #94420, 9.99 each

How it Works:

✦**Payment**—The Stitchery of the Month is offered only by automatic credit card billing. When you order, you authorize us to charge your credit card for each kit as it is shipped.
✦**Return any kit**—If you receive a kit, and you'd rather not keep it, just return it to us. Your credit card will be credited immediately, and you'll receive future kits without interruption.
✦**Cancel at any time**—You may cancel your membership in any Stitchery of the Month Club at any time, for any reason.
✦**Shipping for each Stitchery of the Month Club is only 3.49 per month**

Call 1-800-852-7338 *or* go online at www.keepsakeneedlearts.com to order
Use code JCS7B • PO Box 1618 • Center Harbor, NH 03226

WACKY HOLIDAY

Designed by Diane Arthurs of Imaginating, Inc.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	321	47	red
■	333	119	blue-violet, vy. dk.
@	434	310	brown, lt.
◑	701	227	green, lt.
☆	704	256	chartreuse, bt.
+	721	324	orange spice, med.
◊	726	295	topaz, lt.
.	945	881	tawny
ℓ	957	50	geranium, pl.
Ƀ	996	433	electric blue, med.
	3371	382	black brown

	Just Another Button Company™	
★	3314.L	large golden star

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 18-count white Aida from Charles Craft
Stitch count: 70H x 70W
Design size: 4" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over one square, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where • appears, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach button, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 22.

Backstitch instructions:

321	47	pink heart, stripes on candy cane, stripes in border
333	119	scroll above "Wacky"
3371	382	remainder of backstitch

French-knot instructions:

333	119	scroll above "Wacky"
3371	382	remainder of French knots

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Backing was made using red and green felt. Hanger was made by twisting an 8" length of 20-gauge wire around a pencil three or four times, leaving ends straight. Poke ends of wire through felt layers and twist to secure. Glue five ¼" pom poms to wire, if desired.

Jeannette Douglas Designs

Jeannette Douglas

As I write this in early April here in Calgary, it looks like Christmas outside. The icicles are dripping from all the eaves, and beautiful crystal-like snowflakes are lightly floating down on the already white ground. Does this not sound like it should have happened a few months ago? Alas, north of the 48th latitude, and add the elevation of living in the foothills of the Rockies, spring snowfalls are often the case in March or April. We long for a hint of hyacinths or even a sniff of daffodils or tulips. But the snow truly is beautiful. I have a huge evergreen out on my front lawn, which is decked out in great mounds of puffy snow on the drooping branches that made me think of doing trees for our little ornament selection.

Wishing you all a joyous Christmas—enjoy your decorated tree wherever you may be.

What is Christmas without shortbread? This is my late mother-in-law's recipe. It is still in her handwriting ten years later, but getting very faded. I have just rewritten it so as not lose it, but I mourn the loss of it being in her handwriting.

Milly's Shortbread

1 c. butter
1½ c. all-purpose flour
½ c. confectioners' sugar
½ c. cornstarch
Almond flavoring to taste
Candied maraschino cherry pieces

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a mixing bowl, combine all ingredients except cherries; mix well. Roll mixture into balls and lighty flatten with the bottom of a glass. Add a cherry piece to top.

Bake for 12–15 minutes.

CHRISTMAS TREE 2007

Designed by Jeannette Douglas of Jeannette Douglas Designs

DMC®	Anchor®	
♥ 3858	897	rosewood, med.
@ 3011	856	khaki green, dk.
△ 680	901	old gold, dk.
bs 610	889	drab brown, dk.

DMC®	Anchor® Pearl Cotton #12	
○ 712	926	cream (tent stitch)

Fabric: 6" x 5" piece 32-count natural Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 42H x 26W
Design size: 2⅝" x 1⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work tent stitch over one thread, using pearl cotton #12.

Area 1–Work windmill stitch over eight threads for star, using one strand 680/901.

Area 2–Work sprat's head stitch over eight threads, using one strand 3011/856.

Areas 3 and 5–Work star stitch over six threads, using one strand 680/901.

Areas 4 and 6–Work sprat's head stitch over eight theads, using one strand 3011/856. Work upside-down ray stitch over four threads, using two strands 3858/897.

Area 7–Work straight stitch for ribbons on package, using one strand 610/889. Work lazy-daisy stitch for bow, using one strand 610/889.

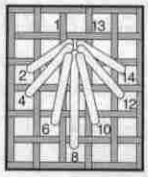
Photo is on page 18.

Backstitch instructions:

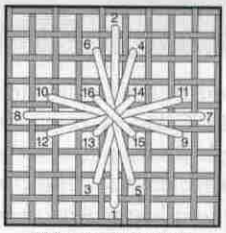
3858	897	lettering
610	889	swirls

Finishing instructions: Mount piece in Tiny Frame (#103G) from Olde Colonial Designs. Attach ribbon to back for hanger.

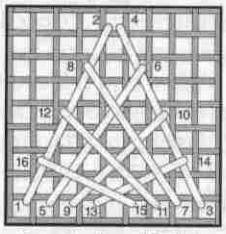
Jeannette Douglas Designs
708 Coach Bluff Crescent South West
Calgary, AB T3H 1A8
Canada
e-mail: *jendouglas@shaw.ca*
Web site: *www.jeannettedouglas.com*



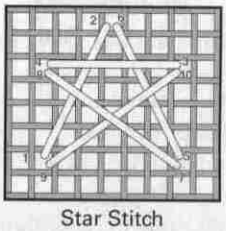
Upside-Down Ray Stitch



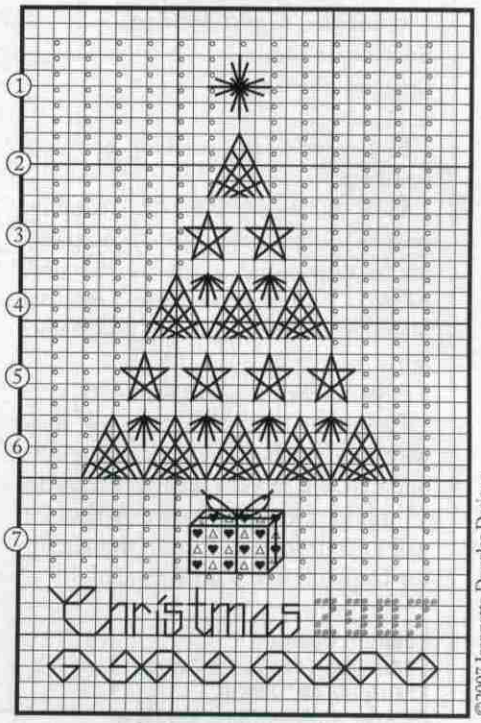
Windmill Stitch



Sprat's Head Stitch



Star Stitch



Christmas Tree 2007

©2007 Jeannette Douglas Designs

Jemini Designs

Jeanette Rees

Now that we have retired to the western North Carolina mountains, bird-watching has become a new hobby. We have an abundance of birds, and we try to keep them happy with several feeders. Winter brought out several types of woodpeckers—the Pileated, Downy, Red Headed, and Hairy. They love having their feeders kept full and have kept us amused as they use their stiff tails as props for climbing and feeding.

Here is a recipe that will surely attract the woodpeckers (and others).

Woodpecker
Peanut Butter Fruit Suet

1 c. yellow cornmeal
1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1 c. chunky peanut butter
3 c. lard
Dried fruits (raisins, blueberries, cranberries, and cherries)
Sunflower seeds
Cracked peanuts

In a large bowl, combine cornmeal and flour.

In a microwaveable bowl, combine peanut butter and lard. Microwave on Medium-High (70% power) until melted. Pour over cornmeal mixture, blending and adding more liquid until fairly firm.

Add dried fruit, seeds, and nuts.

Pack this mixture into pans lined with wax paper. (The depth should be one that will fit your feeder.) Freeze for 45 minutes; cut into logs or strips that will fit your feeder. Place in freezer zip-top bags and freeze until needed.

Jemini Designs
246 Serenity Pointe Drive
Murphy, NC 28906
e-mail: *stitch2quilt@aol.com*

WOODLANDS WOODPECKER

Designed by Jeanette Rees of Jemini Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
@	321	47	red
	317	400	pewter gray
	310	403	black

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	3900	(310)	kohl
.	4125	(blanc)	snowflake

Rainbow Gallery Wisper

–	W88	white

Mill Hill® Bugle Beads

90479	white
92014	black

Mill Hill® Seed Beads

◑	02014	black

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 25-count mushroom Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 68H x 24W
Design size: 5 1/2" x 2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work long stitch, using one strand of floss.

Attach seed beads, using two strands of coordinating floss and a cross stitch.

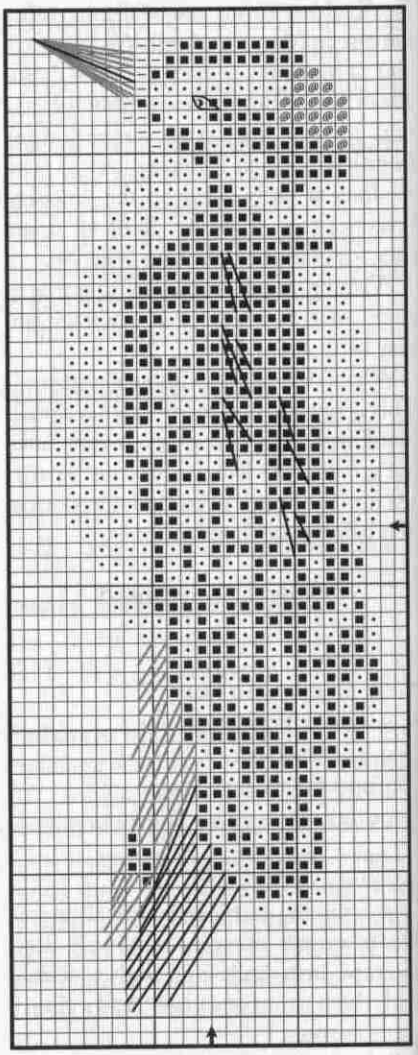
Attach bugle beads atop long stitches on tail, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 25.

Long stitch instructions:

317	400	beak (gray lines)
310	403	center of beak (black line), bottom of tail (black lines)
4125		upper part of tail (gray lines); body (gray lines); eye (curved line)

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. If desired, add greenery, berries, and small pinecones to side, attaching to stitched piece with coordinating floss or sewing thread. Twisted cording and hanger made from jute string. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.



Woodlands Woodpecker

Julia Lucas Designs

Julia Lucas

As I wondered what to design for this year's collection, I thought about all the Christmas decorations my husband and I have collected in our 30 (is it really that long already?) years together. Everything has its own special memory or meaning, whether bought or hand-made, from the antique sparkle card that his mother gave him over 50 years ago, to the clumpy crocheted bells I made while in hospital.

The star on top of the tree is still the same tinfoil cardboard star that Mike made when he was nine, and there are five silver balls that my parents used to hang on their tree. We have bought red birds, brass bells, nutcrackers, wooden apples, two tiny glass reindeer, and a miniature canoe for our tree. My collection of stitched ornaments and decorations is growing steadily, and some don't get put away once the season is over. (See photo!)

The front door of a home says so much about the warmth and hospitality waiting inside, so this year I stitched up a little front door and "Welcome" greeting. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas.

This easy recipe has become a family favourite.

Coconut Macaroons

3¼ c. shredded coconut
1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease one baking sheet; set aside.

In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients and mix well. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto prepared baking sheet.

Bake for 8–10 minutes, or until lightly browned on top. Do not over bake.

DECK THE HALLS

Designed by Julia Lucas of Julia Lucas Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	839	1086	beige brown, dk.
✱	840	1084	beige brown, med.
~	927	849	gray green, lt.
#	987	244	forest green, dk.
ℓ	989	242	forest green
X	3012	855	khaki green, med.
☾	3013	853	khaki green, lt.
@	3051	845	green gray, dk.
∞	3052	844	green gray, med.
.	blanc	2	white
	3011	856	khaki green, dk.

DMC® Light Effects Floss

★	E3821	gold, lt.

Mill Hill® Treasures

12055	wreath and bow

Mill Hill® Petite Seed Beads

○	40557	gold
●	42013	red

Fabric: 10" x 7" piece 28-count chai tea Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 77H x 42W

Design size: 5⅜" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using three strands of floss or two strands of metallic floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Attach beads, using one strand 3013/853 and a full cross stitch.

Attach treasure, referring to photo for placement, after finishing.

Photo is on page 11.

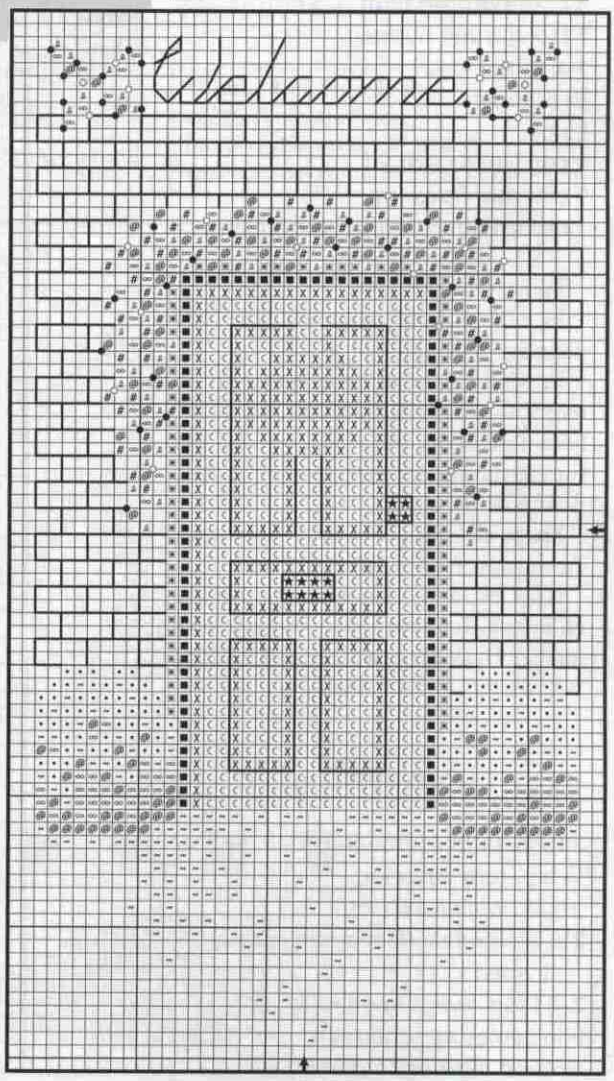
Backstitch instructions:

987	244	lettering
3011	856	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Press fabric from reverse side, straightening as much as possible. Trim piece to 2" from stitched design. Turn under sides along edge of stitching; finger-press fold. Slipstitch side seam allowance together along overlap on wrong side, taking care not to pierce front of stitched piece. Turn under bottom edge by 1" and finger-press; fold bottom corners to wrong side, creating a point at bottom of stitched piece. Slipstitch seam allowance in place on wrong side. Turn under top edge by 1½". Slipstitch in place, leaving an opening for twisted-cording hanger.

Twisted-cording hanger and tassel made using DMC® 3013, 3052, 987, and 840. Twisted cording instructions appear on page 70. Tassel-making directions appear on page 73.

Julia Lucas Designs
11 Cobham Crescent
Toronto, ON M4A 1V7
Canada
e-mail: *jalucas@sympatico.ca*



Deck the Halls

©2007 Julia Lucas Designs

Kitty & Me Designs

Pamela Kellogg

Here's one of my favorite Christmas cookie recipes. I make these every year, and they're a huge hit with my family and neighbors.

Eggnog Log Cookies

3 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. ground nutmeg
1 c. butter
¾ c. sugar
1 egg
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 tsp. rum flavoring
1 recipe Rum Frosting (Recipe follows.)

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a large bowl, combine flour and nutmeg.

In a mixing bowl, beat butter for 30 seconds until creamy. Add sugar and beat until fluffy. Add egg, vanilla, and rum flavoring; mix until combined. Add flour mixture, and mix well.

Shape dough into 3 x ½"-inch logs. Arrange on ungreased cookie sheets.

Bake for 15–17 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from oven and cool on wire racks. Frost with Rum Frosting.

Makes about 54 cookies.

Rum Frosting

3 Tbsp. butter, softened
½ tsp. rum flavoring
½ tsp. vanilla extract
2½ c. sifted confectioners' sugar, divided
2–3 Tbsp. evaporated milk
Food coloring (optional)
Ground nutmeg (optional)

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter, rum flavoring, and vanilla. Add ½ c. confectioner's sugar. Gradually add more sugar and evaporated milk, beating until the frosting spreads easily. Tint frosting with food coloring, if desired.

Spread frosting over tops of cooled cookies. Mark the frosting lengthwise with tines of fork to resemble bark. Sprinkle frosting with additional nutmeg.

CHRISTMAS BLACKWORK CAT

Designed by Pamela Kellogg of Kitty & Me Designs

DMC®	Anchor®	
bs 310	403	black

Mill Hill® Glass Treasures

★	12198	large holly leaf (2)
●	13034	siam rondele (3)

Fabric: 9" x 7" piece 28-count antique white Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 70H x 45W
Design size: 5" x 3¼"

Instructions: Backstitch over two threads for outline of cat, using two strands of floss. Backstitch over two threads for blackwork, using one strand of floss.

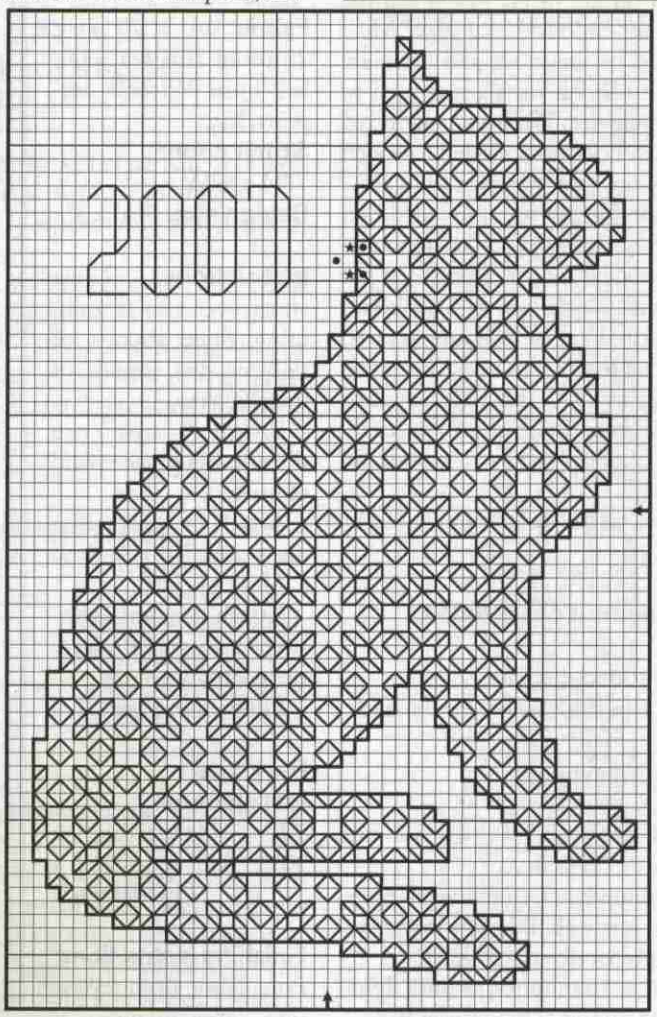
Attach treasures, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Photo is on page 24.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Trim and hanger made from purchased cording.

Stitched by Kim Dennett

Kitty & Me Designs
Post Office Box 24
Ringwood, IL 60072-0024
e-mail: *pamkellogg@kittyandme.com*
Web site: *www.kittyandme.com*



Blackwork Christmas Cat

©2007 Kitty & Me Designs

Knotted Tree NeedleArt

Jamie Beam

Merry Christmas! Another year, and so much has happened. I gained a sister-in-law (Hilary); got a baby nephew (Grant); got a baby cousin (Jake); gave to the church; gave to the MS Walk; lost my Grandpa Kile; and ended a marriage.

We all have a mental "give/lose/receive" column running through our minds. The trick is finding the balance. But here's the rub. This isn't a life scale that you want evenly balanced. If you want the scales tipped in your favor, really pile up the "Give" column.

Giving at Christmas is why I've always loved Santa and why I chose him for the ornament issue this year. He represents giving, mystery, hope, and love of Christmas in a wonderful way. Santa is the opening act for the greatest story of all time: a baby in a manger, the greatest gift of all.

Ugly (Adult) Christmas Cookies

1 c. butter
1 c. brown sugar
1 c. sugar
2 eggs
2 tsp. vanilla extract
2¼ c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
¼ tsp. salt
2 c. oatmeal
2 c. chopped walnuts or pecans
2 c. raisins
1 c. chopped dates

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a mixing bowl, cream together butter and sugars. Beat in eggs and vanilla.

In a separate bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt. Add to butter mixture, and mix to combine. Stir in oatmeal, nuts, raisins, and dates.

Drop by spoonfuls onto cookie sheets. Bake for 8 minutes.

SANTA

Designed by Jamie Beam
of Knotted Tree NeedleArt

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

.	1091	(blanc)	whitewash
X	3960	(3815)	teal frost
■	3900	(310)	kohl
♡	1332	(3722)	red pear

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	1120	(3857)	cherry bark
△	0410	(420)	tarnished gold
♥	0360	(816)	cranberry
ℓ	1160	(950)	adobe

The Gentle Art
Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

/	7025	(ecru)	Shaker white

Mill Hill® Seed Beads

●	00367	garnet

Just Another Button Company™

☆	3315.L	apricot star

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count natural linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 59H x 56W
Design size: 3¾" x 3½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads for moustache, using one strand 3900.

Work long stitch for eyebrow, using one strand 1091.

Work Rhodes stitch over six threads in bottom of coat, using one strand 1091.

Attach beads, using one strand 3960 and a half cross stitch.

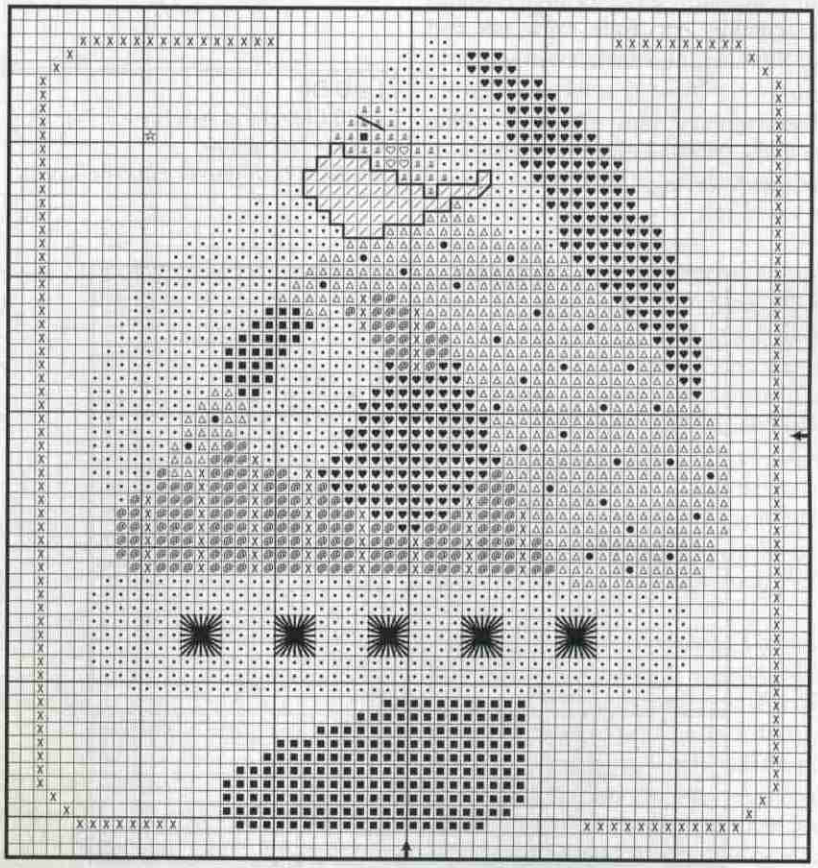
Attach button, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Photo is on page 16.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Trim was made by making small loops around edge of ornament using Mill Hill® 00367 garnet seed beads.

Finished by Mona Bost of the Silver Needle.

Knotted Tree Needleart
52216 Fruitvale Road
Milton Freewater, OR 97862
Web site: *www.knottedtree.com*



Santa

©2007 Knotted Tree NeedleArt

La-D-Da

Lori Markovic

I just love Christmas morning! This is a quick-and-easy breakfast to serve. It can be assembled the night before and baked while opening gifts.

Baked Oatmeal

2 c. old fashioned oats
3 c. milk
3/4 c. brown sugar
1 tsp. salt
1 egg, beaten
1/2 c. frozen blueberries
1/2 c. frozen peach slices

Preheat oven to 350°. Lightly butter a 9" x 13" baking pan; set aside.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine oats, milk, sugar, salt, and egg. Simmer until thick. Gently fold in fruit.

Pour mixture into prepared baking pan. Bake for 30 minutes, or until set.

Makes 6 servings.

YULE FLOWER

Designed by Lori Markovic of La-D-Da

Hand Dyed Fibers Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	1413 (918)	quince (kangaroo paw)
■	5137 (839)	Kodiak bear (castory)
X	3435 (3011)	sea wreck (kelp)
☆	4143 (783)	cerveza (malt)

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count black Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 36H x 39W
Design size: 2 1/4" x 2 1/2"

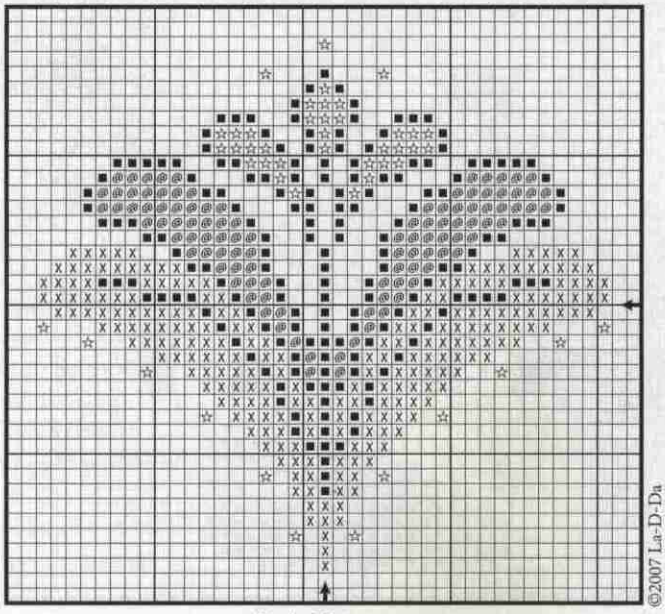
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Photo is on page 14.

Finishing materials and instructions:
One Mill Hill® (#MHCC2) Creative Charms Medium Heart
Black interfacing

Following manufacturer's directions, attach stitched piece to charm. (**Note:** Stitched piece in model was finished with lightweight black interfacing. A ribbon was added to charm for hanging.)

La-D-Da
1226 Cleveland Avenue
Racine, WI 53405
e-mail: *lorimarkovic@hotmail.com*



©2007 La-D-Da

Yule Flower

Ladybug Lane Designs

Jennifer Cooke-Rabig

This year, I'm including a picture of my newest grandson, born last October 23. He looks to me about as excited as a kid can be for Christmas or anytime! Also, the recipe I'm sending here is one that my husband, Chris Rabig, kind of made up—he loves sausage and peppers. It's fairly quick to make (about 30–45 minutes) and perfect for those times when you want quick 'n easy after shopping or far too much turkey, ham, or Christmas pudding.

Quick 'N Easy Sausage & Peppers

Vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped
5 or 6 mild Italian Sausages, sliced into 1/2"- to 1" pieces
1 green bell pepper, julienned
1 red bell pepper, julienned
Italian seasoning to taste
1 (14.5-oz.) can petite diced tomatoes
1 (8-oz.) can tomato sauce with basil and oregano

In a wok, heat just enough oil to cover the bottom of the pan over medium heat. Add onions and stir fry until translucent. Add sausages and cook covered until browned on all sides. Add peppers, along with seasoning to taste. Cook for 10 minutes.

Drain excess oil and add diced tomatoes and tomato sauce. Add more Italian seasoning to taste, stirring well. Cover and let simmer for about 20–30 minutes.

Serve over pasta or rice, or even plain.

Ladybug Lane Designs
50 Barrett Parkway, Suite 1200 #208
Marietta, GA 30066
e-mail: *jennifer@ladybuglane.com*
Web site: *www.ladybuglane.com*

MOST WONDERFUL TIME

Designed by Jennifer Cooke-Rabig of Ladybug Lane Designs

DMC® Anchor®
B5200 1 snow white

Kreinik® Blending Filament
032 opal

Crescent Colours Belle Soie
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
sweet lavender (3042)

Charland Designs, Inc. Sterling Silver Charms
★ tiny holly charm

SJ Designs Polished Beads
○ 1859 silver

Fabric: 9" x 7" piece 32-count lavender bliss Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 76H x 48W
Design size: 4 3/4" x 3"

Instructions: Backstitch over two threads, using one strand sweet lavender. (**Note:** Model uses darkest part of variegated floss for snowflake.)

Work rice stitch over four threads for border, using two strands B5200/1 and one strand of blending filament.

Work French knot where ● appears in lettering, using one strand sweet lavender and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach beads, using one strand B5200/1 and a full cross stitch.

Attach charm, using two strands sweet lavender.

Photo is on page 28.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording hanger was made using DMC® 3743. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Model is embellished with a bow made from 1/2" purple ribbon.

©2007 Ladybug Lane Designs

Most Wonderful Time

Legacy Designs

Fran Colburn

Growing up, one of my daughter's favorite movies was *A Christmas Story*. While she enjoyed it for the comedic value, I remembered my own childhood holidays while watching the movie.

We lived in Liberty Heights, a neighborhood in Baltimore City; and while there were retail stores, malls had not yet been invented. Most shopping was done in four major department stores downtown. All four were located within a couple of blocks of each other on Howard Street.

Usually children could not wait to see Santa Claus, but I was always anxious to see the window dressings. Shortly after Thanksgiving, the displays were unveiled, each striving to be the biggest and the best. The animations, the music, and the stories revealed were fascinating to a little girl aged five. No matter how cold or nasty the weather, my Grandpop would wait patiently until I looked them over several times, deciding which one I liked the most. Of course, this was impossible since they were all perfect!

Next was a cup of cocoa at a coffee-shop counter, then on to view all four toy departments. We had to see all four since no one could convince me that the selection would be the same. I would save Hutzler Brothers for last because they had the most incredible doll collection. Every doll was displayed on a shelf behind the counter. I mostly remember the Madame Alexander® dolls because of their beautiful faces and stunning costumes. Which one to pick, I could not decide.

One Christmas morning, Grandpop had decided for me. I unwrapped my present and found the bride doll. The exquisite detail of her face, lace dress, silk stockings, satin pumps—she was the most beautiful doll I had ever seen. Although I no longer have the doll, I will always love my Grandpop and cherish the memories of our special "dates" together.

QUAKER DARNING SOCK 2007

Designed by Fran Colburn of Legacy Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
X 0390 (321) buckeye scarlet

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
■ 7028 (520) grape leaf

Fabric: Two 9" x 6" pieces 36-count lentil linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 71H x 49W
Design size: 4" x 2¾"

Instructions: Work double running stitch for outline of stocking, using one strand 7028.

Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for date, using one strand of floss.

Work darning stitch where ⁄ and \ appear, using one strand 7028 and orienting stitch in the direction of the symbol.

Work double running stitch for outline of stocking on second piece of fabric, reversing the pattern, using one strand 7028.

Photo is on page 10.

Finishing instructions: Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse a piece of lightweight interfacing to wrong side of both pieces of fabric. Cut out stocking, leaving ¼" seam allowance. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side; clip corners. Place front and back with wrong sides together. Using two strands 7028, lace together through running stitches, leaving top of stocking open. Finger press seam allowance at top to back and secure to interfacing with a drop of glue. Cover seam with cording or ribbon as desired. Hanger and bow made from ⅛" green silk ribbon.

Legacy Designs
106 Farragut Way #248
Kennebunk, ME 04043
e-mail: *legacy_designs@roadrunner.com*

TWISTED-CORDING INSTRUCTIONS

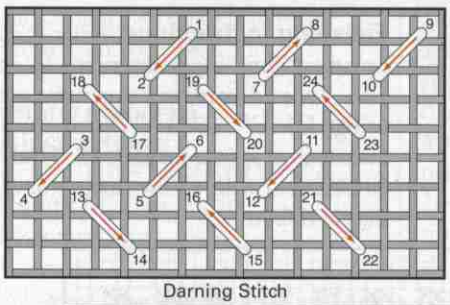
Materials:
Embroidery floss, pearl cotton, or other fiber to complement stitchery (**NOTE:** To determine amount needed, see Step 1. Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
Mini cording drill

NOTE: Cording can be made by one person; however, the procedure can be awkward at times, especially when dealing with long lengths of floss—an extra set of hands is always helpful.

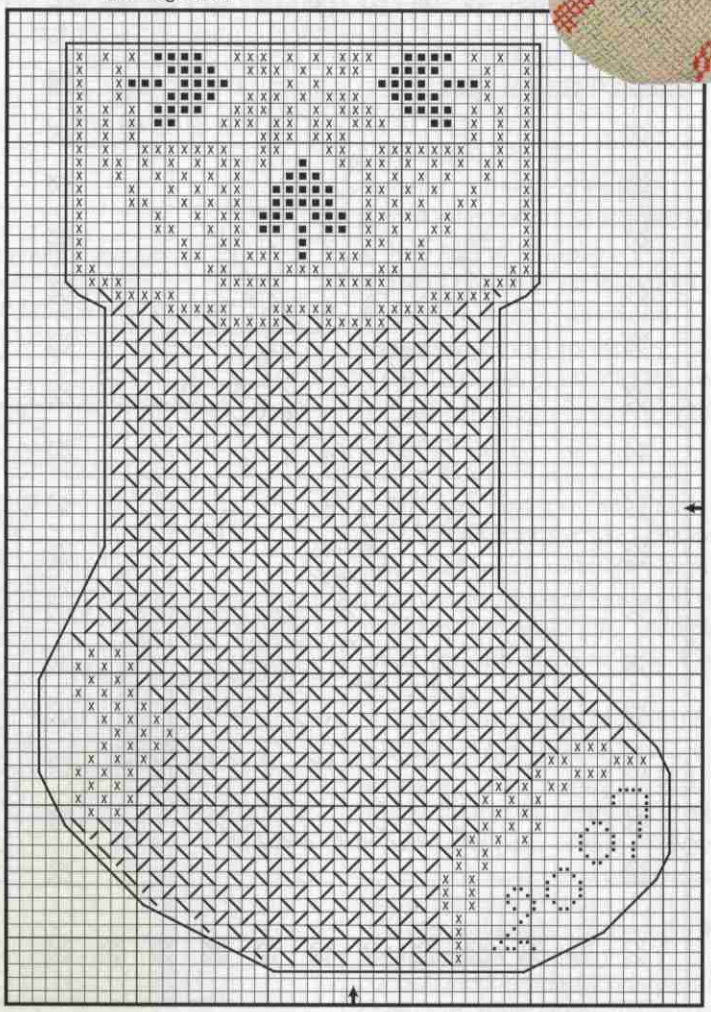
1. To determine the amount of floss needed, multiply by three the desired length of the cording, making sure to include any length needed for hangers when finishing ornaments. Place all lengths of floss together and tie a knot in each end.

2. Slip one knotted end of floss onto hook of cording drill. Slip other knotted end over a small knob. Pull drill so that floss is taut. Operate drill in a forward direction. Floss will begin to twist. Continue twisting until floss is very tightly twisted and is about to twist up on itself.

3. Carefully remove knotted end from drill hook, being extremely careful not to let go of end and keeping twisted floss taut. Place hook of cording drill in center of length of twisted floss and place knotted end on knob, still keeping floss taut. Operate drill in a reverse direction until desired twist for cording is achieved. Remove drill. Remove ends from knob and secure with another knot.



Darning Stitch



©2007 Legacy Designs

Quaker Darning Sock 2007

Little by Little Design Co.

Cynthia Daly Bradford

Have a wonderful holiday and a healthy happy New Year!

Donuts in a Rhyme

One cup sugar, one cup milk
Two eggs beaten fine as silk

Salt and nutmeg (lemon will do)
Of baking powders teaspoons two

Gently stir the flour in
Roll on pie board not too thin

Cut in diamonds, twists, or rings
Drop with care the doughy things

Into fat that swiftly swells
Evenly the spongy cells

Watch with care the fire for turning
Fry them brown, just short of burning

Roll in sugar, serve when cool
This a never failing rule.

MERRY AND BRIGHT

Designed by Cynthia Daly Bradford of Little by Little Design Co.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
ℓ	523	859	fern green, lt.
@	632	936	desert sand, ul. vy. dk.
X	831	277	golden olive, med.
★	936	846	avocado green, vy. dk.
○	3772	1007	desert sand, vy. dk.
♥	3857	22	rosewood, dk.

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

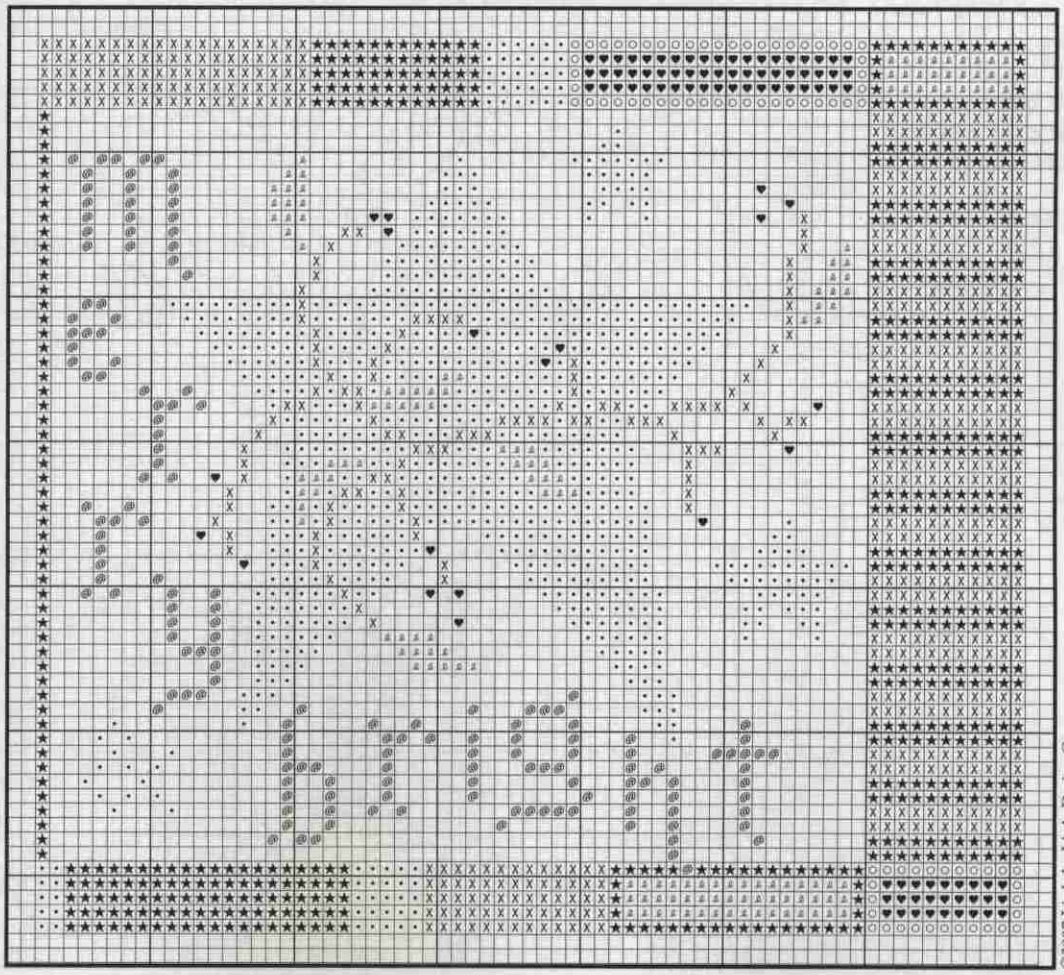
.	7002	(739)	straw bonnet

Fabric: 10" x 10" piece 40-count hand-dyed sagebrush linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 62H x 69W
Design size: 3 1/8" x 3 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.
Photo is on page 20.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Hanger was made using red twine.

Little by Little Design Co.
14610 Huntersville-Concord Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
e-mail: *cynthia@littlebylittledesigns.com*
Web site: *littlebylittledesigns.com*



©2007 Little by Little Design Co.

Merry and Bright

Little House Needleworks

Diane Williams

This year, I chose to offer a design that would reflect the fond memories I have of living and growing up in Indiana. I don't remember a holiday without snow, and I don't remember snow without bunnies! I can fondly recall seeing the fluffy balls of brown and white fur scattered around the snow-filled backyard, scrounging for a bit of food. You can use the "Snow Bunnies" pouch to hold a small gift or fill with twigs and berries and hang from a branch or peg.

I wish all my friends and stitchers the blessings of the season and a happy new year!

SNOW BUNNIES

Designed by Diane Williams
of Little House Needleworks

	DMC®	Anchor®	
.	blanc	2	white
@	3051	845	green-gray, dk.
X	3768	779	gray-green, dk.
■	3862	358	mocha beige, dk.
a	3864	376	mocha beige, lt.

Fabric: Two 8" x 8" pieces 32-count rue green Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 71H x 63W
Design size: 4½" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Photo is on page 28.

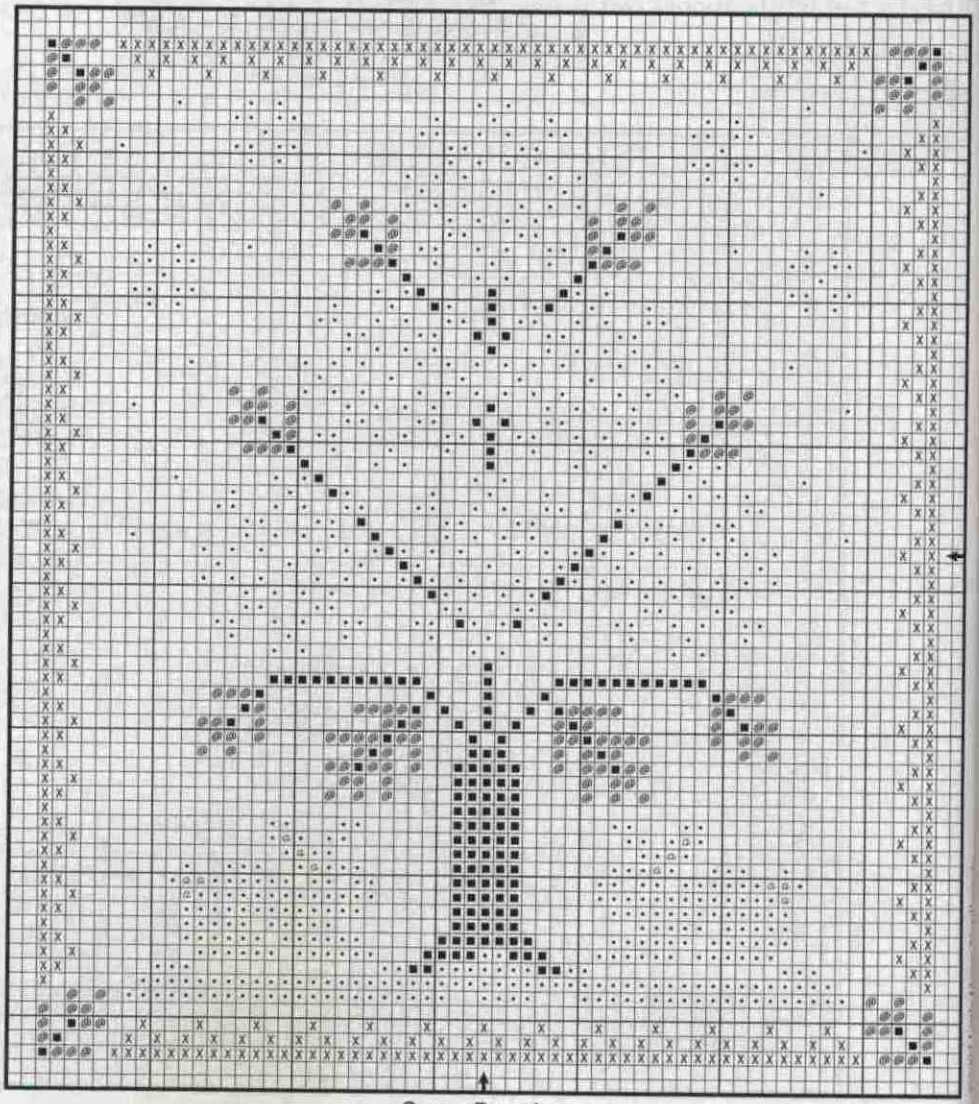
Finishing instructions: Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. Trim fabric to ½" from stitched border. Trim second piece of linen to same size.

Press seam allowance to wrong side of stitched piece. Repeat for second piece of linen.

Place wrong sides together and blind stitch together, leaving top open, using coordinating sewing thread. Fold raw edges of top inward and secure seam allowance, using a small running stitch.

Twisted-cording hanger was made using DMC® blanc. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Little House Needleworks
3321 West Cinnamon Drive
Tucson, AZ 85741
e-mail: *littlehouseneedleworks@msn.com*
Web site:
www.littlehouseneedleworks.com



Snow Bunnies

*Lizzie*Kate, Inc.*

Linda Ebright

Sometime I feel like I never leave the house without my stitching and a casserole in hand. It seems whatever event I'm attending requires food—which is a good thing!

Here is a quick little recipe for anytime you need to contribute a snack. It's also great for kids' lunchboxes and after-school treats. Best of all, it only has four easy ingredients that you probably already have in your kitchen. I often make these ahead and refrigerate for easy slicing. I also don't measure ingredients—just spread, sprinkle, slice, and go!

PB Pinwheels

¼ c. peanut butter
2 (8") flour tortillas
2 tsp. honey
½ c. prepared granola

Spread peanut butter on each tortilla. Drizzle with honey and sprinkle with granola. Roll up tightly and cut into slices.

JOY

Designed by Linda Ebright of Lizzie*Kate, Inc.

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

.	1091 (blanc)	whitewash
@	2266a (321)	Louisiana hot sauce
X	2156 (320)	hunter
■	1279 (319)	holly

Fabric: 4" x 7" piece 32-count toasted almond Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 22H x 50W
Design size: 1⅜" x 3⅛"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

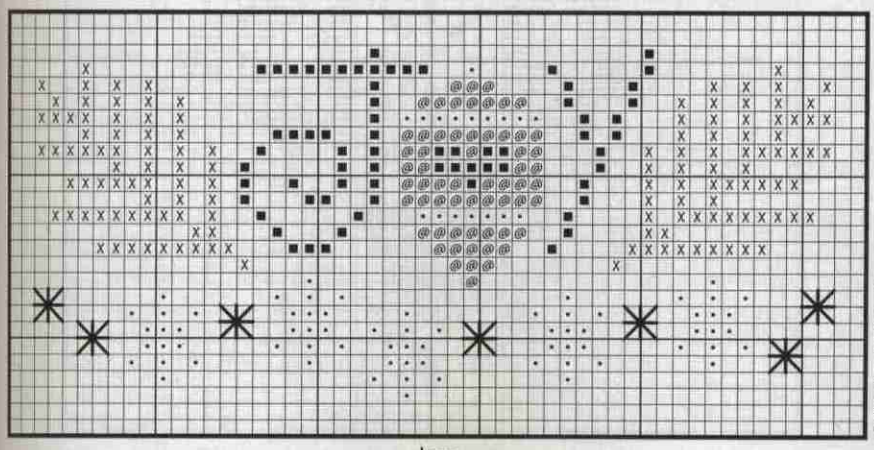
Work Algerian eye stitch over four threads where ✳ appears on chart, using two strands 1091 and pulling each leg gently to open a hole in center of stitch.

Photo is on page 12.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Trim and hanger were made using ¼"-diameter ribbon. Curl and twist ribbon, pinning in place with medium white-head pins along ornament edge.

Finished by Mona Bost

Lizzie*Kate, Inc.
2901 Oriole Drive
Wichita, KS 67204
e-mail: *mail@lizziekate.com*
Web site: *www.lizziekate.com*



Joy

©2007 Lizzie*Kate, Inc.

TASSEL-MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

One skein of floss (**Note:** Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
Square piece of sturdy cardboard, approximately 1" larger than desired finished size of tassel
Hand-sewing needle
Scissors

1. Cut two 6" lengths of floss from full skein. Set aside for tying top of tassel.

2. Wrap remaining floss around cardboard, referring to Illustration 1 and being careful not to bend cardboard by wrapping floss too tightly.

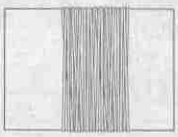
3. Slip one 6" length of floss under wrapped floss at top edge of cardboard and tie securely, referring to Illustration 2. Do not trim floss tails.

4. Carefully remove cardboard.

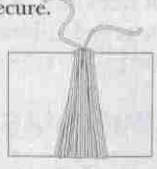
5. Referring to Illustration 3, wind second 6" length of floss around neck of tassel, ¼"–½" from top of tassel. Thread needle with floss tail and wrap around tie several times, referring to Illustration 4. Bury floss end in tassel. Repeat for remaining floss tail.

6. Cut along bottom of tassel through all fibers. Trim bottom of tassel to desired length and so that floss is even.

7. Attach tassel to ornament, using floss tail at top of tassel to secure.



ILL. 1



ILL. 2

ILL. 3

ILL. 4

COMPLETED TASSEL

LoopyLou Designs

Lynda Bodkin

I really enjoy the build up to Christmas—first decorating the house and especially the tree. Once that is up, it feels like Christmas has started. I have fond memories of my two boys getting excited on Christmas morning, shouting "Father Christmas has been!"

Now they are eighteen and sixteen, so my memories turn back to my childhood where I spent most years at my grandmother's in the north of England in a town called Doncaster. It was a mining community. There were lots of coal fires, which were needed as back then you could guarantee a white Christmas. We would make lots of snowmen and have snowball fights.

It was so hard to get to sleep on Christmas Eve, and I can still remember hearing sleigh bells. My grandfather was very inventive. It was a lovely time spent with family, which I miss. Still hopefully, it will not be long till I have grandchildren and we can pretend to be Father Christmas!

CHRISTMAS JOY

Designed by Lynda Bodkin
of Loopy Lou Designs

DMC® Anchor®
blanc 2 white

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #8
B5200 1 snow white

Mill Hill® Seed Beads
○ 02010 ice

Mill Hill® Bugle Beads
70020 royal blue

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 28-count white lugana from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 46H x 46W
Design size: 3 1/3" x 3 1/3"

Instructions: Work satin stitch where heavy black lines appear on chart, using one strand pearl cotton #8.

Work Algerian-eye stitch over four threads where gray lines appear, using two strands B5200/1 and pulling each leg to open a hole in center of stitch.

Attach seed beads, using one strand B5200/1 and a cross stitch.

Attach bugle beads where blue rectangles appear, using one strand B5200/1.

Photo is on page 28.

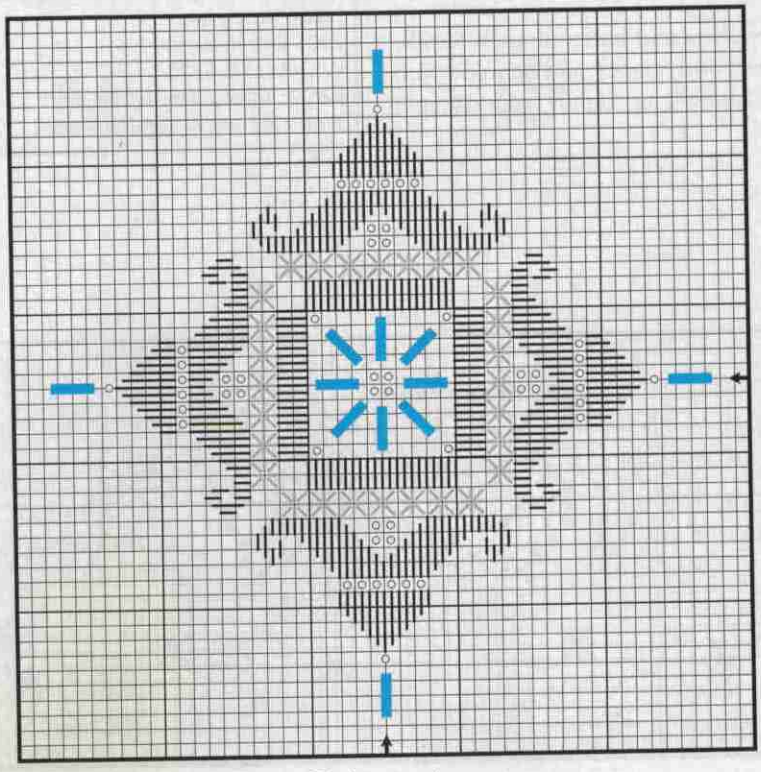
Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament-finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted cording and tassel were made from DMC® B5200 pearl cotton #8. Twisted cording instructions appear on page 70. Tassel-making instructions appear on page 73.

LoopyLou Designs
49 Walcourt Road
Kempston, Bedfordshire MK42 85T
United Kingdom
e-mail: *enquiries@loopyloudesigns.co.uk*
Web site: *www.loopyloudesigns.co.uk*

GENERAL FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Cording or trim (**Note:** See Step 2 to determine length.)
Backing fabric to complement cross stitch
Thread to match fabrics or trim
Hand-sewing needle
Tape measure
Ruler
Steam iron
Scissors
Transparent fabric glue (optional)

1. Press stitched piece from back. **NOTE:** Some threads cannot be ironed with steam.
2. Measure circumference of finished ornament and add 8" for hanger to this measurement to determine the length of cording or trim for each ornament.
3. When attaching cording, secure cut ends with stitches or fabric glue. Blind stitch cording to ornament, using sewing thread and concealing cut ends.



Christmas Joy

©2007 LoopyLou Designs

M Designs

Mary McLenon-Turley

This is such a "mom" recipe. I remember making these yummy treats each Christmas with my mom and my brothers and sister. It's easy, but it can be really messy in a "lick-your-fingers" kind of way. Because it involves working on the stove, the best job, "dipper," was always given to the oldest kid. This worked out really well for me as I was the oldest girl in the family, and my big brother preferred eating the treats over making them.

All grown up and with two children of my own, the tradition continues. And, as with most kid-friendly households, we always seem to have a few extra children around the house. They are always eager to jump into any baking or craft project that this mom can come up with. The rule of thumb is: the messier the project, the more fun we have. This holiday season, when I have a half-dozen kids looking for something fun to do, I'll pull this recipe out, and we'll play "candy factory." Chocolate, peanut butter, confectioners' sugar—how messy could it get?

Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season!

Peanut Butter Bonbons

13 oz. crunchy peanut butter
1½ c. margarine, softened
2 lbs. confectioners' sugar
2 oz. paraffin wax
1 (12-oz.) pkg. semisweet chocolate morsels

In a large bowl, combine peanut butter, margarine, and sugar. Mix thoroughly; shape into 1" balls.

In the top of double boiler over simmering water, melt paraffin wax and chocolate chips together. Keep mixture on stove at low heat.

Insert toothpick into center of peanut-butter balls. Using toothpick as a handle, dip peanut-butter balls into melted chocolate, coating completely. Place on waxed paper to set.

When set, place in a sealed container and store in the refrigerator.

NOEL IN THE TREE

Designed by Mary McLenon-Turley of M Designs

The Thread Gatherer Silk 'n Colors
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■ 184	(520)	mossy cauldron
@ 235	(3721)	warm brick path

DMC® Anchor®

3866	926	mocha brown, ul. vy. lt.

Mill Hill® Petite Seed Beads

○ 40123	cream
◑ 40332	emerald

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 36-count vintage bisque linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 70H x 54W
Design size: 4" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads where large ✳ appears in red on chart, using one strand 235.

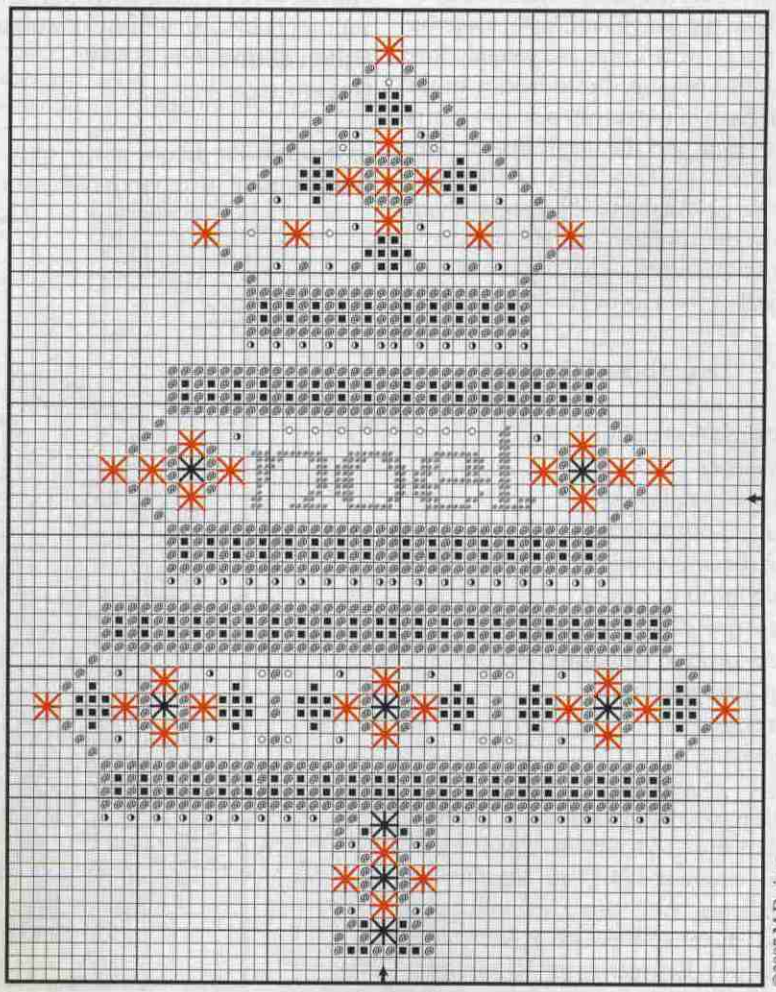
Work eyelet stitch over four threads where large ✳ appears in black on chart, using one strand 184 and pulling each leg gently to open a hole in center of stitch.

Attach beads, using one strand 3866/926 and a full cross stitch.

Photo is on page 12.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording and hanger are made from DMC® 221. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

M Designs
1489 Sparta Highway
Crossville, TN 38572
e-mail: *mary@m--designs.com*
Web site: *www.m--designs.com*



Noel in the Tree

©2007 M Designs

Medeiros Needlecraft Design

Melinda Medeiros

A favorite tradition in our home includes making cookies for the holidays. By far, the most fun are the gingerbread houses we make together. In anticipation of the big day, a trip to the store is made to buy all the necessary ingredients and to select the candy decorations. Mini-frosted shredded wheat for the roof, gum drops, candy canes, pastel buttons, pretzels, mints, and Necco wafers are just a few in a long list. We plan our houses, make paper templates, measure, mix, and bake the dough and, lastly, assemble the pieces with icing. I absolutely love the aroma of gingerbread baking in the oven. Each of us receives our own pastry bag of icing and the magic begins. This is, perhaps, my favorite part of the holidays because of the time I spend with my family, the laughter, and the wonderful memories created each Christmastime. I wish all of you a joyous holiday season.

Gingerbread Cookies

1/4 c. unsalted butter
1/2 c. sugar
1/2 c. dark molasses
3 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. ground cloves
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
2 tsp. ground ginger
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 c. water

In a mixing bowl, beat butter and sugar until creamy. Add molasses and mix well.

In a separate bowl, sift together dry ingredients. Add sifted ingredients to butter mixture, alternating with water. Blend well. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 350°.

With a rolling pin, roll dough on a floured surface to a 1/8"-thickness. Cut out shapes with cookie cutters or create your own shapes with a knife. Bake for 8 minutes and cool on a wire rack. Decorate as desired with icing and candies.

GINGERBREAD COTTAGE

Designed by Melinda Medeiros of Medeiros Needlecraft Design

	DMC®	Anchor®	
◆	210	108	lavender, med.
$	436	363	tan
△	437	362	tan, lt.
ℓ	738	361	tan, vy. lt.
@	911	205	emerald green, med.
♭	3609	85	plum, ul. lt.
~	3756	1037	baby blue, ul. vy. lt.
♥	3801	1098	melon, vy. dk.
.	blanc	2	white
bs	779	1088	cocoa, dk.

	Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4	
(	032	pearl

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 28-count vintage autumn field Cashel® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 49H x 39W
Design size: 3 1/2" x 2 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid. Work partial cross stitch where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where • appears, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once.

Photo is on page 22.

Backstitch instructions:

032		garland on tree
779	1088	remainder of backstitch

French-knot instructions:

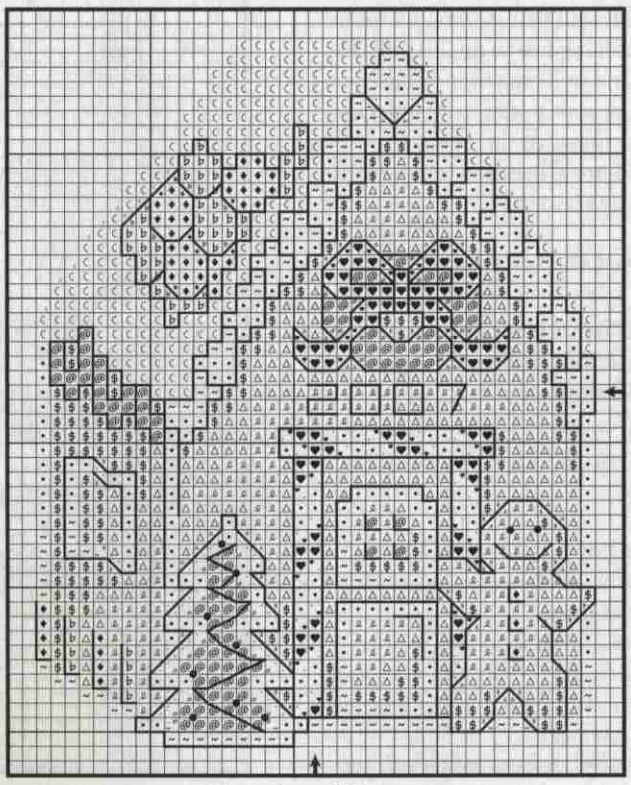
779	1088	eyes on gingerbread man
3801	1098	ornaments on tree

Stitched by Pat Chaudoin

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording and hanger made from DMC® 3801 and Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4 (032 pearl). Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Finished by Becky Cade

Medeiros Needlecraft Design
Post Office Box 2388
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2388
e-mail: *melinda@needlecraftdesign.com*
Web site: *www.needlecraftdesign.com*



Gingerbread Cottage

©2007 Medeiros Needlecraft Design

Midsummer Night Designs

Deborah Thorpe

I grew up in Phoenix, so we never had snow. But my mother made Christmas special for us every year by decorating the large plate-glass windows in our kitchen with spray-on snow. We loved coming home from school to find she had done the windows. My dad would get as excited as we kids about Christmas each year. He never thought there were enough presents and always made a trip out by himself on Christmas Eve to get at least one more present for each of us. And inevitably, he'd come home with bags of hard Christmas candy—the old fashioned ribbon candy and peppermints and chocolate-covered cherries. On Christmas morning, he was always the first to awaken. He had real sleigh bells and would jingle them through the house to awaken the rest of us. A few days before Christmas, another of my mother's traditions was to make this recipe. She'd pop it in the oven Christmas morning, and it would be ready for us for breakfast by the time we finished opening the presents.

Sugarplum Ring

1 (.25-oz.) pkg. active dry yeast
½ c. warm water (105° to 115°)
½ c. lukewarm milk (scalded then cooled)
⅓ c. sugar
⅓ c. shortening
1 tsp. salt
1 egg
3½–4 c. all-purpose flour, divided

Topping:
½ c. margarine or butter, melted
¾ c. sugar
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
½ c. finely chopped nuts

In a large bowl, dissolve yeast in warm water. Stir in milk, sugar, shortening, salt, egg, and 2 cups flour. Beat until smooth. Mix in enough remaining flour to make dough easy to handle.

Turn dough onto lightly floured surface; knead until smooth and elastic. Place in greased bowl; turn greased side up. Cover and let rise in warm place until doubled in size, about 1½ hours.

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease a 10-inch tube pan; set aside.

Punch down dough. Shape dough into 1½-inch balls. In a small bowl, combine topping ingredients. Roll each dough ball in topping mixture and place into prepared tube pan, placing each in a single layer so that they just touch. Continue with a second layer of dough balls. Allow to rise for 40 minutes, or until doubled in size.

Bake for 35–40 minutes, or until golden brown. Loosen from pan. Immediately invert pan on serving plate. Let pan remain a minute so butter-sugar mixture drizzles over coffee cake. To serve, break coffee cake apart with two forks.

Midsummer Night Designs
9711 North Camino del Fierro
Tucson, AZ 85742
e-mail: *dsthorpe@comcast.net*
Web site:
www.midsummernightdesigns.com

CHRISTMAS ANGEL

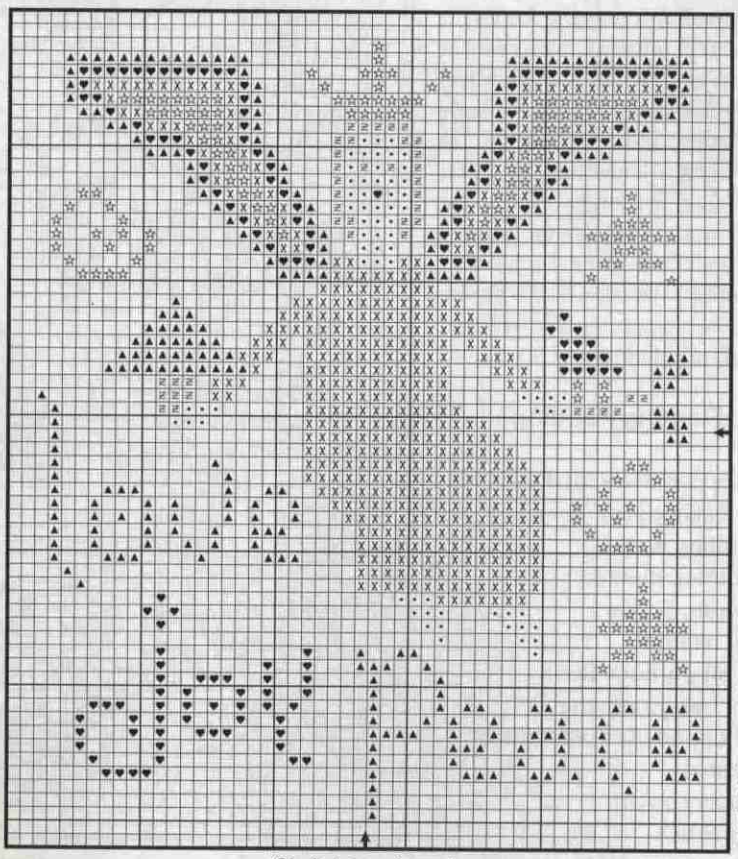
Designed by Deborah Thorpe
of Midsummer Night Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	221	342	shell pink, vy. dk.
≠	611	898	drab brown
•	758	9575	terra cotta, vy. lt.
☆	833	874	golden olive, lt.
▲	3051	845	green-gray, dk.
X	3052	844	green-gray, med.

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 36-count sand Belfast® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 58H x 50W
Design size: 3¼" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.
Photo is on page 27.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording, hanger, and tassel made from DMC® 3051. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Tassel-making instructions appear on page 73.



Christmas Angel

©2007 Midsummer Night Designs

Milady's Needle

Gloria Moore

Christmas has always been my favorite holiday. I love decorating, and I love thinking about gifts to surprise my family or close friends. Family traditions make Christmas very special to me. The memories of traditions last beyond the time when loved ones are no longer with us. My mother died of ALS in 1994. Although she is no longer with us, we remember her at Christmas with our tradition of "Flaming Pudding."

Mom used to make this special recipe of sweet nut muffins every year. When dinner was finished, before the Bible reading and present opening, we would gather around the table. The sauce was poured over the top of the muffin, the soaked sugar cube placed on top, each cube lighted, and our Flaming Pudding was placed in front of each of us. With only the flames for light, except for the Christmas tree, the race was on. As a child, I was always excited to see whose flame continued to burn the longest. No prize, just the knowledge that your flame lasted the longest. Each year as I look at my family's faces in the soft glow of the flame, I remember my mother's devotion to our family. These are memories that will last through my lifetime and beyond.

Flaming Pudding

1 c. chopped dates (packed tightly)
1 tsp. baking soda
1 c. boiling water
3/4 c. butter, divided
2 c. sugar, divided
1 egg, beaten
1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. baking powder
1 c. chopped nuts (walnuts or pecans)
1 c. heavy cream
Sugar cubes
Lemon extract (85% alcohol)

Preheat oven to 300°. Line a muffin pan with paper liners and set aside.

Place dates in a small bowl and sprinkle with baking soda. Pour boiling water over dates; set aside.

In a large bowl, beat 1/4 c. butter, 1 c. sugar, and egg until creamy.

In a separate large bowl, combine flour, baking powder, and nuts. Add butter mixture and mix until well blended. Add date mixture and stir to combine.

Pour batter into muffin cups to 1/4" from top. Bake for 45 minutes.

For sauce, combine remaining 1/2 c. butter, remaining 1 c. sugar, and cream in a small saucepan and bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Drizzle a couple of tablespoons over each muffin. Place remainder of sauce in a serving creamer and serve with muffins.

Soak one sugar cube for each muffin in lemon extract and place on top of muffin. Light and serve.

Makes 16 to 18 muffins.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Designed by Gloria Moore of Milady's Needle

Needlepoint Inc. Silk

@ 105 (791)	pansy purple
✱ 124 (3772)	brick
☆ 474 (3820)	marigold yellow
ℓ 614 (3839)	glacier
a 642 (502)	peacock blue
■ 647 (500)	blue green
◑ 716 (902)	wine red

Mill Hill® Seed Beads

○ 02012	royal plum

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 40-count sheep's straw linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 67H x 67W
Design size: 3 3/8" x 3 3/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of silk.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 716.

Christmas Blessings

Work French knot where • appears, using one strand 716 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Work diamond eyelet stitch over six threads for tree topper, using one strand 474 and pulling each leg gently to open a hole in center of stitch.

Attach beads, using one strand coordinating floss and a full cross stitch.

Photo is on page 15.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording, hanger, and tassel made from DMC® 902. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70. Tassel-making instructions appear on page 73. Bow was made using purchased 5/8"-diameter ribbon.

Milady's Needle
1510 Briar Meadow Drive
Keller, TX 76248
e-mail: *gloria@miladysneedle.com*
Web site: *www.miladysneedle.com*

PARIS

Designed by Heather Holland-Daly of monsterbubbles

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

◆ 1030 (791) bankers gray
@ 0270 tutti frutti
094 Kreinik® VFR #4 star blue
0930 (3750) deep sea

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Threads™

■ 7042 (310) raven

Crescent Colours Hand Dyed Floss

X sunset

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

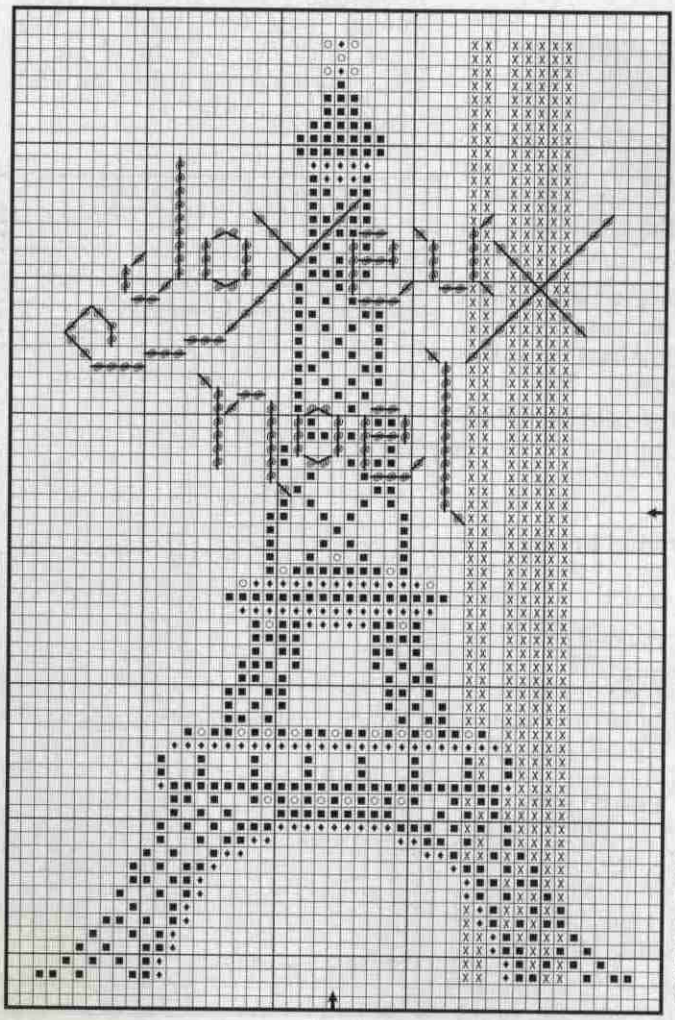
094 star blue

Mill Hill® Magnifica Beads

○ 10060 sheer coral red

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 30-count Just Another Button Company™ green linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 70H x 45W
Design size: 4 3/4" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of floss and one strand of very fine braid.



Paris

©2007 Monsterbubbles

Monsterbubbles

Heather Holland-Daly

My sister and I set to baking every year a week or so prior to Christmas as our mom once did. This recipe for Buckeyes is a Christmas staple in our house. They get eaten as fast as we can make them—so much so that we hide them! We make several batches, split them between cookie tins, and put them in out-of-the-way places all over our mom's house. It has become quite a game, really. A Christmas tradition that is good for your soul...not so much your waist! We rarely make any less than four batches. I promise these treats will disappear before Christmas Eve unless you get sneaky like us and find hiding spots!

Buckeyes

2 c. crunchy peanut butter
3 c. Kellogg's® Rice Krispies®
1 c. confectioners' sugar
1/2 c. melted butter
1 (12-oz.) pkg. semisweet chocolate morsels
2 oz. paraffin wax

In a bowl, combine peanut butter, Rice Krispies, confectioners' sugar, and butter. Mix well by hand. Shape into 1" balls.

In the top of a double boiler over simmering water, melt chocolate morsels and paraffin wax. Using toothpicks, dip each ball into chocolate mixture, being careful to leave a spot on the top of the ball to resemble a buckeye. Place on waxed paper and allow to set.

monsterbubbles
22 Kenn Drive
Belleville, IL 62226
e-mail: *heather@monsterbubbles.com*
Web site: *www.monsterbubbles.com*

Backstitch over two threads working atop cross stitches, using one strand 0930.

Attach beads, using one strand sunset and a full cross stitch.

Photo is on page 22.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Model was embellished using Mill Hill® 10060 sheer coral red Magnifica beads, 120 silver 3mm seamless round beads, and 40 4mm bi-cone Swarovski Crystals (18 light rose, 18 rose, and 4 indicolite). Thread beads onto flat-head metal straight pins and insert into edge of ornament at regular intervals. Hanger was made using a 12" piece of The Thread Gatherer (SR7 045 chartreuse) 7mm Silken Ribbon.

JUST BEFORE THE TRIP

Designed by Frank and Judy Bielec of Mosey 'N Me

	Anchor®	DMC®	
.	2	blanc	white
/	376	3774	sportsman flesh, vy. lt.
*	378	841	beige-brown, lt.
○	398	415	gray
■	403	310	black
ℓ	894	224	rose wind, med. lt.
	380	898	fudge

The Gentle Art Sampler Simply Shaker Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	7019	(347)	pomegranate
◑	7037	(930)	freedom
@	7023	(320)	green pasture

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count ice blue Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 58H x 64W
Design size: 3⅝" x 4"

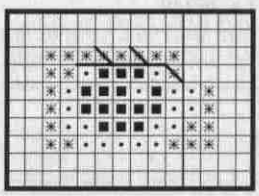
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread for eye area, using one strand of floss and referring to over-one chart.

Backstitch over two threads for eyelashes, using one strand 380/898.

Photo is on page 16.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Hanger was made from purchased ⅛"-diameter grosgrain ribbon.

Mosey 'N Me
1436 Baird Avenue
Katy, TX 77493
e-mail: *moseynme2000@aol.com*
Web site: *www.moseynme.com*



Over-One Chart
(Eye Detail)

Mosey 'N Me

Frank and Judy Bielec

Frank was teaching a punch-needle class, and it was close enough for Milo and me to visit. Milo is like Frank—very social.

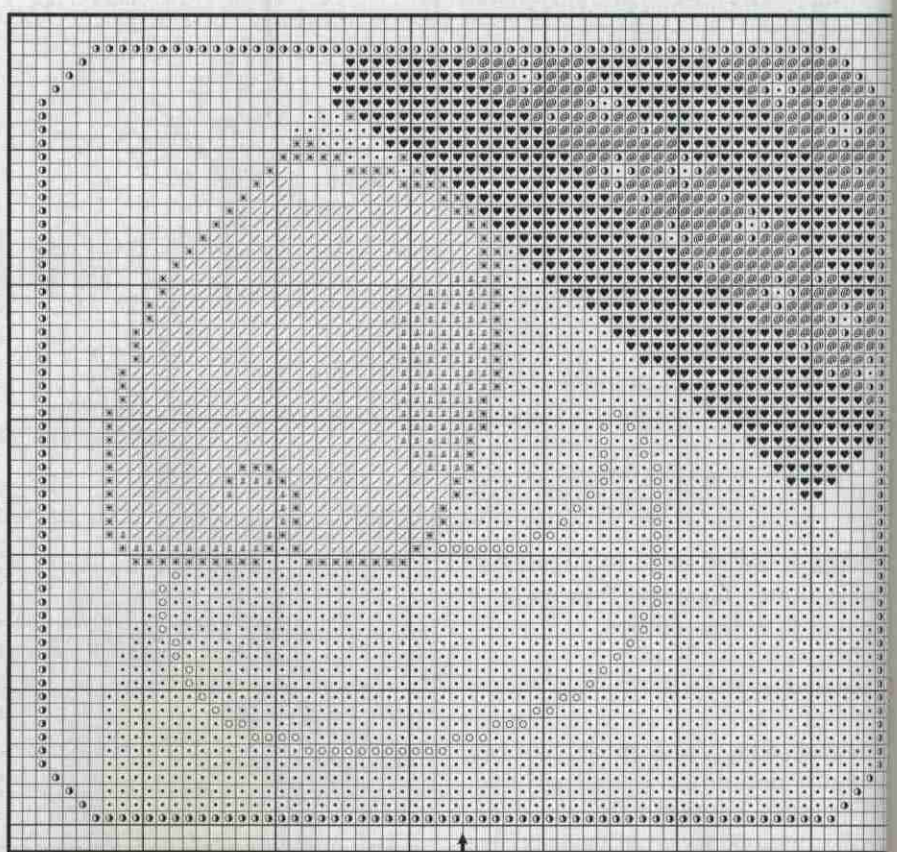
Sweets are a part of many of our holidays, so here's a recipe to add to the fun of the season.

Amish Caramel Candy

2 c. sugar
2 c. heavy cream, divided
1¾ c. light corn syrup
1 c. butter
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Butter an 8" x 8" pan; set aside.

In a heavy saucepan, combine sugar, ½ cup cream, corn syrup, and butter; bring to a boil. While boiling, gradually add remaining cream. Do not allow mixture to stop boiling. Boil mixture until soft-ball stage (236°–240°). Add vanilla. Pour into prepared pan, and allow to cool. Cut into squares.



Just Before the Trip

Moss Creek Designs, Inc.

Rae Iverson

I have always admired the handcrafts from the Scandinavian countries. The bright colors and fine finishing bespeak their pride of quality workmanship. This year's pocket ornament features the *Dalahäst*, a pudgy, tailless horse whose humble beginnings, unrelated to Christmas, nevertheless speak to the season's joy of selfless giving. In the early years of *Dalahäst's* life, he was a plain wooden toy, his body decorated only by the natural grain of the wood. Sometimes the carver would polish him until he shone, other times he would simply rub him smooth before handing him to a little child. For several hundred years, that was how he existed. Though roosters, pigs, and other farm animals were also carved, it is the pudgy, tailless horse that has lasted through the centuries. As with many handcraft traditions, materials and events came together unexpectedly for the colorful adaptation we know today.

In the early years of the eighteenth century, King Charles XII of Sweden was at war with much of Europe. It was customary for soldiers on duty to stay in private homes, frequently with people they did not know and who did not have extra space or provisions to share comfortably. It is told that a young soldier was quartered with a clock maker's family in the province of Dalarna, Sweden, known for its plentiful forest and nearby copper mines. He was mindful of the inconvenience he presented to the family. One evening, following a tradition born of cold winters several hundred years before he was born, he picked up a scrap of wood from the clock maker's discards and carved a little toy horse for the couple's child. Rather than leaving it as plain wood, he borrowed some of the clock maker's copper-based red paint and painted the entire horse. Then his imagination took hold. Building on his religious roots, he continued painting by adding a harness and saddle in bright primary colors to please the child. The round curves of the saddle and the swashes of white paint were derived from his knowledge of the *kurbit* plant (similar to a gourd), which the Bible says grew strong and wide to protect Jonah from the heat and sun as he sat outside the walls of Ninevah. With the winter winds howling, the soldier-carver was no doubt warmed by the familiar story and the family's hearth just as Jonah was protected. The evening wore on, and the coals in the fire dimmed. Very soon, the decorated horse would be a means of relating the ancient story to the child as he played.

It is not hard to imagine the child's delight in receiving such a colorful gift, nor is it difficult to imagine that his mother would have been happy to repay the soldier's unexpected kindness with soup and bread. The soldier, grateful for warm food in the harsh winter, carved and painted another animal—maybe a rooster or a pig or a cow—and was rewarded with yet another meal. It is said that word quickly spread among the other soldiers who began carving and painting wooden toy animals for the children of the village in exchange for warm bedding and food. Always, the favorite animal was the pudgy, tailless horse.

From this humble beginning has grown a very productive industry for Sweden. Though the horse was born in *Dalahäst*, the home of truly authentic dalahast even today, he has become a symbol of all Sweden. *Dalahäst* today are available in a wide range of sizes and can be found painted black, dark blue, even white, or left as natural wood in addition to the traditional red orange. Regardless of their color, nearly all are embellished with colorful kurbit motifs for their saddles and harnesses.

Just as with the soldier's toy horse, I hope my gift of *Dalahäst* resonates with heartfelt joy, thanks, and goodwill. Merry Christmas!

DALAHÄST: THE GOODWILL HORSE

Designed by Rae Iverson of Moss Creek Designs

Anchor®	DMC®	
. 2	blanc	white
■ 127	823	indigo
# 683	500	turf green
ш 877	3815	pine, med.
☆ 890	729	brass, lt.
♥ 1005	816	cherry red, med.
885	739	sand stone, lt.

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@ 0390	(817)	buckeye scarlet

Fabric: 6" x 9" piece 28-count light Sand Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 80H x 80W
Design size: $2^{7}/_{8}$" x $2^{7}/_{8}$"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

Work broad chain stitch where heavy line appears for border, using one strand 885/739.

Work Palestrina knot where X appears, using two strands of floss.

Work whipped backstitch for swashes (gray lines), using one strand 2/blanc.

Work lazy-daisy stitch for leaves on back of horse's neck, using one strand 877/3815.

For saddle cinch, combine two 12" (six-strand) lengths 683/500. Pull through linen at side of saddle and secure tail on back by overcasting through existing stitches. Divide floss into thirds; braid. Keeping braid across horse's neck, end excess braid on wrong side of linen by inserting braid in a hole closest to stitching and securing on wrong side with several outcast stitches. Trim ends short.

Repeat process for halter and lead, using one strand 683/500 to couch the braid along the arc-shaped path indicated on chart. Using two strands 0390, overcast the braid in place where indicated in red on chart.

On remaining piece of linen, work border only and personalize as desired, using a favorite alphabet and one strand 683/890.

Photo is on page 13.

Backstitch instructions:

877	3815	flower stems
2	blanc	swashes (gray lines)

Finishing materials and instructions:

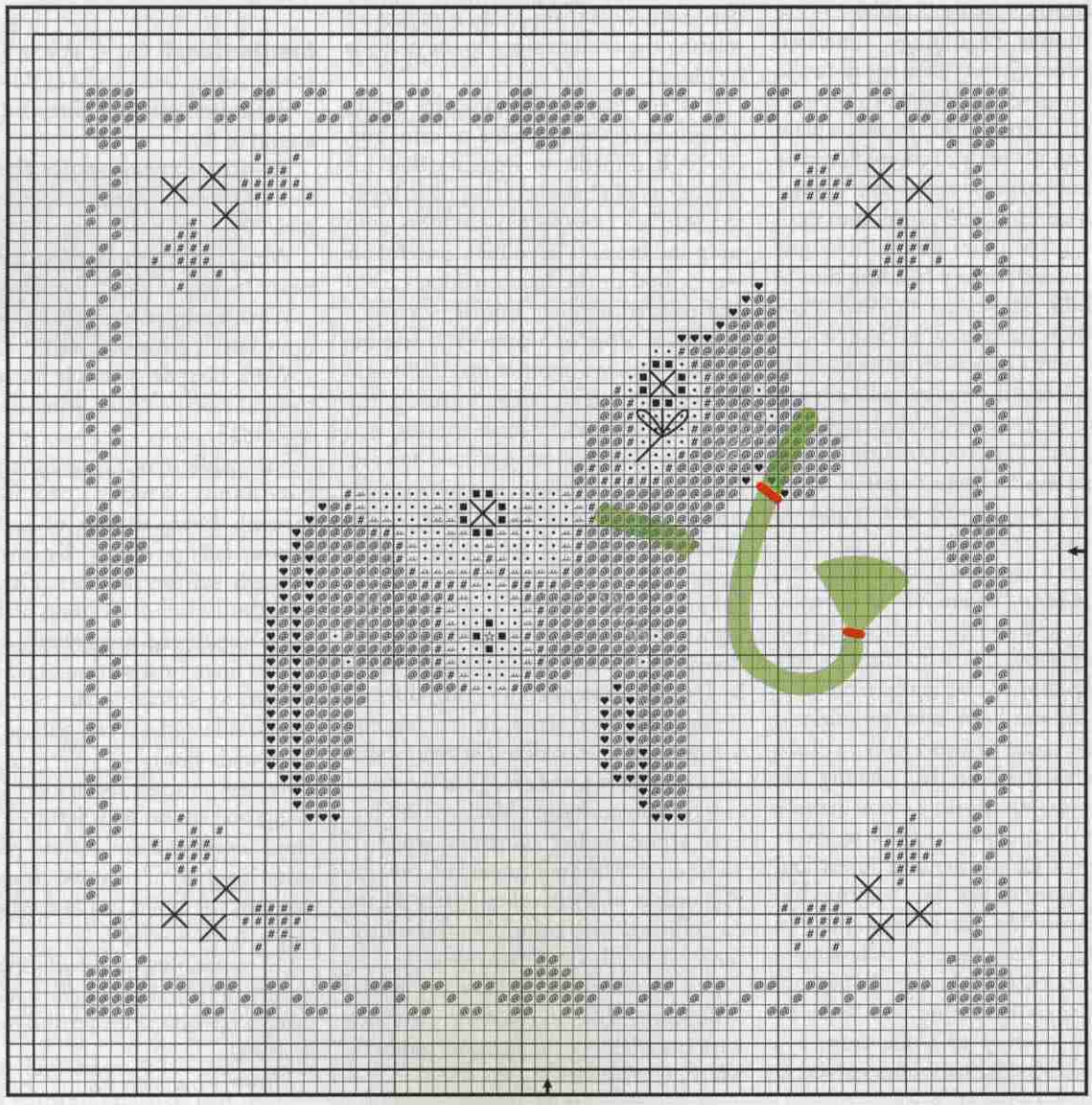
1/8 yd. interfacing
1/8 yd. coordinating decorator fabric
8"-length 7mm-diameter ribbon

Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. Measure 1/2" from fold line and secure raw edges with nun's stitch or with a machine stitch. Trim excess linen. Cut a piece of interfacing to fit within fold lines. Miter corners, and finger press 1/2" seam allowance. Fold seam allowances over interfacing and secure with herringbone stitch. Cut lining fabric to same size as prepared stitched piece. Turn a narrow seam allowance to back and blind stitch lining to stitched piece, with wrong sides together. Repeat process for second piece of linen.

Place front and back of pocket with lining sides together. Join by lacing broad chain loops using one strand 885/739. (**Note:** Start at one upper edge, work down edge, across bottom, and up opposite edge.)

Turn under raw edges of ribbon and attach at top corners. Cover ribbon ends with small bows, if desired.

Moss Creek Designs, Inc.
Post Office Box 7066
Cave Creek, AZ 85327
e-mail: *info@mosscreekdesigns.com*
Web site: *www.mosscreekdesigns.com*



©2007 Moss Creek Designs

Dalahäst: The Goodwill Horse

NeedlePlay Needlework Designs

Catherine Burroughs

What I've always loved and enjoyed about the holidays are the colors you can find—so many glorious colors come with this joyful season! I love the rich greens of wild holly, shiny red berries, and the crisp white snow outside.

I love the crackling orange fires in the fireplace and the rich blues I find in the blanket I use to cover my cold toes. I love the sleek royal purple wrapping papers tied with glistening yellow bows.

Colored candies glisten, and warm brown hot chocolate swirls with all the memories of Christmases past within its wafting steam. I sit and remember.

I smile to myself and in my contentment, I wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season, filled with much cheer and many magnificent colors!

NeedlePlay Needlework Designs
2672 Brookrun Drive
Belleville, IL 62221
e-mail: *needleplay@mindspring.com*
Web site:
needleplay.home.mindspring.com

MY HOLIDAY WREATH

Designed by Catherine Burroughs
of NeedlePlay Needlework Designs

Rainbow Gallery Elegance

E831	green (two cards)

Rainbow Gallery Subtlety

✖ Y820	bright red
■ Y826	cranberry
/ Y899	cream

Needle Necessities
Floss Overdyed

+ 140	crème de menthe

Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads

○ 00479	white
● 00968	red

Fabric: Two 6" x 6" pieces 28-count mint green Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 56H x 56W
Design size: 3½" x 3½"

Instructions: Work satin stitches and Kloster blocks, using one strand E831. (**Note:** Stitch design on both pieces of fabric.)

Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Attach beads, using one strand 140 and a full cross stitch. (**Note:** Where symbol appears on chart lines, offset bead by one thread.)

Cut threads where indicated by red lines on chart. Carefully remove cut threads. Repeat for second piece of fabric.

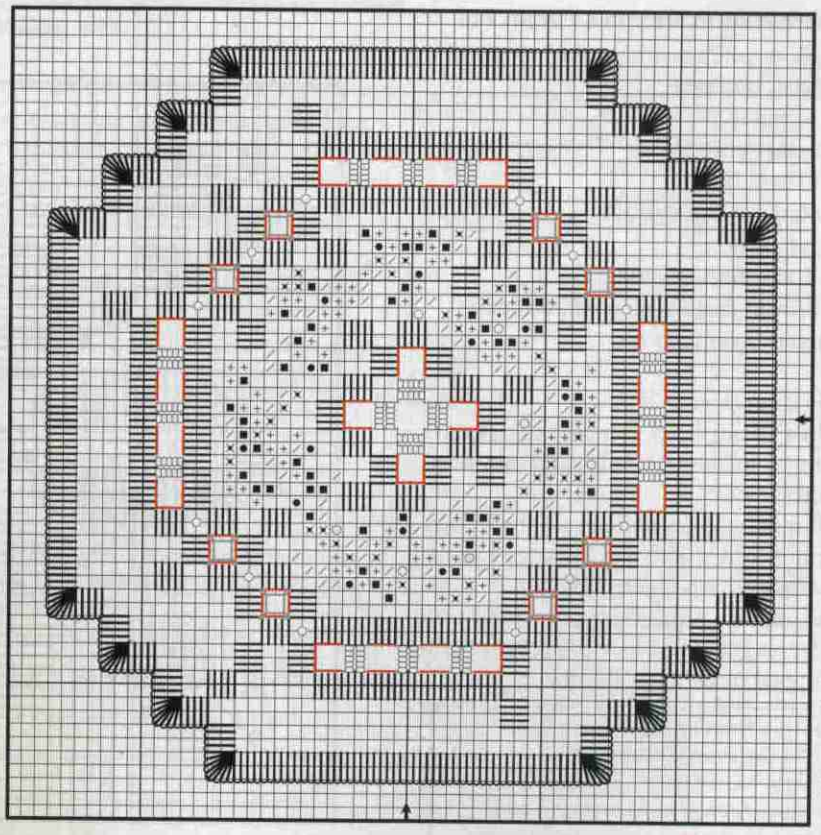
Place both stitched pieces with wrong sides together, aligning Kloster blocks. Work wrapped bars, catching fabric threads from both layers (two from top piece and two from bottom piece) and using one strand Y899. (**Note:** Start with center bars and work outward.)

Work square web for corner areas (gray lines), using one strand Y899.

Trim fabric to one thread from buttonhole stitch. Using one strand 140, work slip stitch or herringbone stitch to join edges together. If desired, lightly pad beneath cross stitches before stitching layers together.

Photo is on page 12.

Finishing instructions: Bow was made using ¼"-diameter red ribbon. Hanger was made from purchased ⅛"-diameter satin ribbon.



©2007 NeedlePlay Needlework Designs

My Holiday Wreath

Nordic Needle

Roz Watnemo

Christmas is a gathering time, a time to stop, celebrate, and worship Jesus—the reason we have Christmas! So amidst all the gifts, decorating, good food, and family fun, take some time to remember John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in him will not perish, but have everlasting life."

Every Christmas, we must have some of the same foods—it's tradition! One of the desserts we always have on hand is pecan pie, made by my husband, Harold, using his Great Aunt Selma's recipe. It's absolutely one of our favorites. This recipe goes back easily over 75 years.

Great Aunt Selma's Pecan Pie

3 eggs, beaten
1/2 c. sugar
1 c. dark corn syrup
2 1/2 Tbsp. butter
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. salt
3/4 c. crushed pecans
1 (9-inch) frozen pie shell, unbaked
Halved pecans to top

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a mixing bowl, combine eggs, sugar, corn syrup, butter, vanilla, and salt. Beat until smooth.

Put crushed pecans into pie shell. Pour syrup mixture over top. Arrange halved pecans over top of pie. Bake for 45 minutes, or until firm. (**Note:** Be careful not to let pie get too dark on top.) Serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

Nordic Needle
1314 Gateway Drive
Fargo, ND 58103
e-mail: *rozw@nordicneedle.com*
Web site: *www.nordicneedle.com*

NORDIC STAR ORNAMENT

Designed by Roz Watnemo
of Nordic Neede

Needle Necessities Floss Overdyed Pearl Cotton #8
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	8198	(3345)	tropical rainforest
	8153	(321)	dazzling red

Fabric: 5" x 5" piece 28-count antique white linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 52H x 52W
Design size: 3 3/4" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Work Kloster blocks and satin stitch where heavy lines appear on chart, using one strand 8153.

Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand 8198.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 8198.

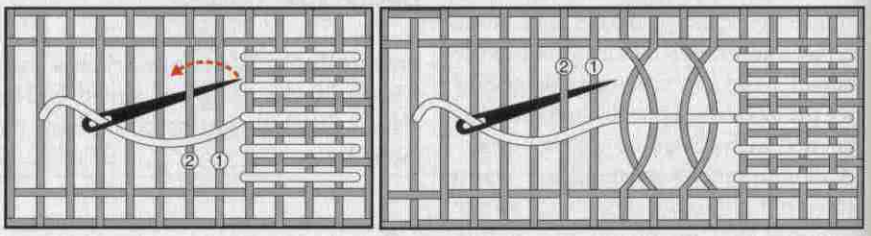
Work Algerian-eye stitch where large ✳ appears in chart, using one strand 8198.

Using small, sharp scissors, carefully cut and withdraw fabric threads where red lines appear on chart. Work twisted-bar stitch, using one strand 8198 and referring to stitch illustration on this page.

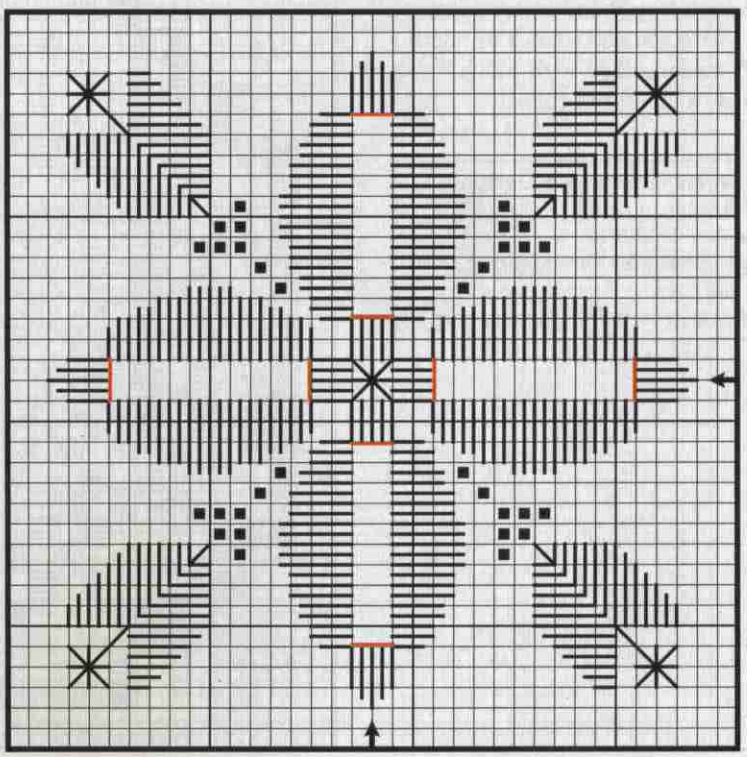
Photo is on page 12.

Finishing instructions:

Trim fabric to 1/2" from stitching on all sides. Turn under by 1/4" on all sides, mitering corners. Stitched piece was blindstitched to a 4" square pillow. Refer to pillow-finishing instructions on page 101. Twisted-cording hanger was made using Needle Necessities 8153 pearl cotton.



Twisted Bar Stitch



Nordic Star Ornament

©2007 Nordic Needle

Prairie Moon

Barbara Syburg
and Suzanne Shead

Presents on Christmas Eve, Swedish Coffee Cake, and "special" coffee for the adults—our family tradition. I hope you enjoy!

Swedish Coffee Cake

1 c. butter
2 c. sugar
3 eggs
2 tsp. vanilla extract
3 c. sifted all-purpose flour
3 tsp. baking powder
1 (12-oz.) can evaporated milk

Topping:
¾ c. brown sugar
¾ c. sweetened flaked coconut
4 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
4 Tbsp. melted butter

Preheat oven to 350°. Butter a 9" x 13" and a 9" x 9" pan; set aside. (**Note:** You can also use three 8"-x-8" pans.)

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter and sugar until creamy. Add eggs and beat well; add vanilla.

In a separate bowl, sift together flour and baking powder. Add to butter mixture, alternating with evaporated milk.

Pour batter into prepared pans.

In a small bowl, mix together all ingredients for topping. Sprinkle over cake batter. Bake for 30–35 minutes.

JOY

Designed by Barbara Syburg and Suzanne Shead of Prairie Moon

Crescent Colours Belle Soie
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	sister scarlet	(304)
@	collard greens	(935)
~	baguette	(3866)
■	noir	(3799)
.	oatmeal scone	(3866)
X	kiwi	(3053)

Fabric: 6" x 8" piece 28-count foglifter blend linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 35H x 68W
Design size: 2½" x 4⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of silk floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Photo is on page 26.

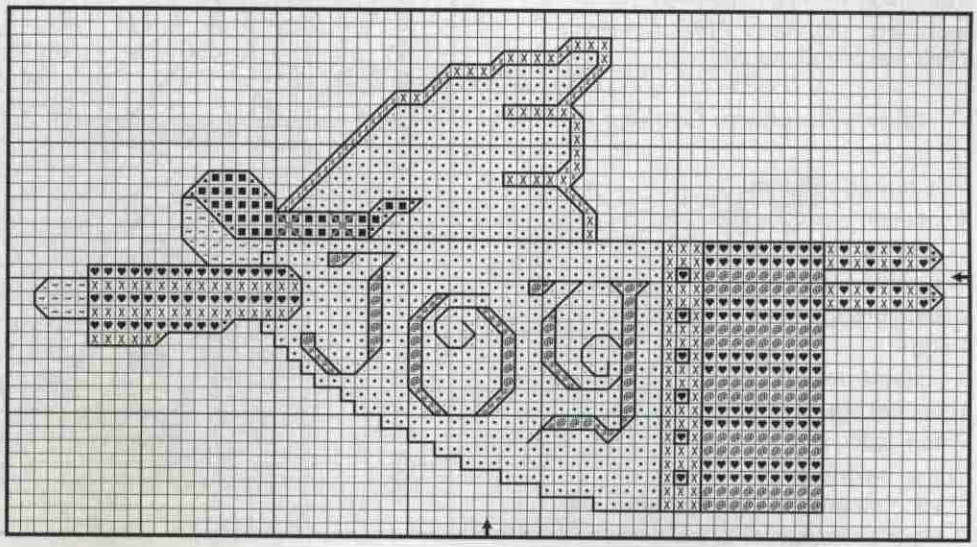
Backstitch instructions:

noir	face, hair, hand
kiwi	ties in hair (gray lines; two strands)
collard greens	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Using stitched piece as a temple, refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Model was finished with one By Jupiter! (#80052BR) star. Attach, using one strand Kreinik® #002C gold cord and referring to photo for placement. Twisted cording was made using DMC® ecru. Twisted cording instructions appear on page 70.

Finished by Debra Noë from Finishing Touch

Prairie Moon
2540 Meadow Wood Road
Granbury, TX 76048
e-mail: *prairiemoon3@aol.com*
Web site: *www.prairiemoon3.com*



Joy

©2007 Prairie Moon

The Prairie Schooler

Pamela Byrd Smith

When the children were small, one of our favorite holiday traditions was hanging the stockings by the fireplace and making sure to leave cookies out for Santa on Christmas Eve. Choosing the right kind of cookies for Santa to eat was also part of the tradition and took a lot of consideration. Using a plate from our best dishes, we ceremoniously positioned the cookies upon a small stool on the fireplace hearth to await Santa's arrival. We didn't forget the reindeer; they got some nice juicy carrots! Our 2007 ornament reminds us of the cookies for Santa and those sleepless hours waiting for him to arrive.

We'd like to share our new holiday favorite, Chewy Cranberry Cookies, to include another splash of cranberry-red in your Christmas holiday. In between baking batches of cookies, see what has been keeping us busy this year with our new releases *Book #140 Pumpkin Patch* and *Book #141 Thanksgiving Comes Again*; and for more cranberry-red designs, see our *Book #142 Cranberry Christmas* or visit our Web site.

Chewy Cranberry Cookies

1/2 c. butter, softened
1 c. sugar
3/4 c. brown sugar, packed
1/4 c. milk
2 Tbsp. orange juice
1 egg
3 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. baking soda
2 1/2 c. coarsely chopped cranberries, fresh or frozen
1 c. chopped pecans

Powdered-Sugar Glaze:
1/3 c. butter
2 c. confectioners' sugar
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
2–4 Tbsp. hot water

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease a cookie sheet; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, cream together butter and sugars; mix until smooth. Stir in milk, orange juice, and egg. Add remaining ingredients; blending thoroughly. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto prepared cookie sheet. Bake for 10–15 minutes, or until light brown. Cool.

For glaze, heat butter until golden brown in a small saucepan over medium heat. Stir in confectioners' sugar and vanilla. Whisk in water until icing reaches desired consistency and smoothness. Spread over cooled cookies.

Makes about 5 dozen cookies.

CRANBERRY CHRISTMAS

Designed by Pamela Byrd Smith of The Prairie Schooler, Inc.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	815	44	garnet, med.
.	blanc	2	white
X	895	1044	hunter green, vy. dk.

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 32-count lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 41H x 46W
Design size: 2 5/8" x 2 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Photo is on page 11.

Backstitch instructions:

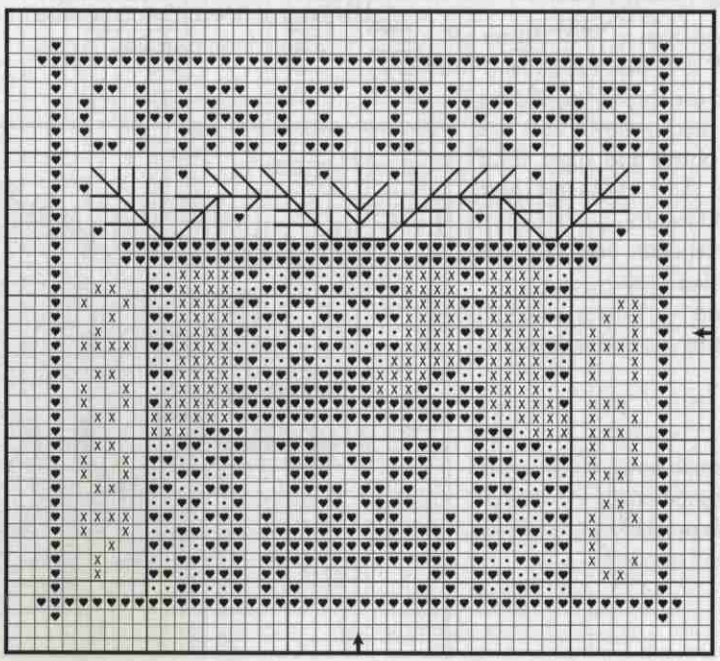
895	greenery
815	remainder of backstitch

Finishing materials and instructions:
2 3/8" x 2 3/4" piece cardboard
2 3/8" x 2 3/4" piece batting
2 3/8" x 2 3/4" piece green felt
6" length twisted cording, made from DMC® 895*

Glue batting to cardboard. Trim linen to 1" from stitching on all sides of stitched design. Center cardboard batting-side down against wrong side of stitched piece. Fold excess fabric over cardboard and glue in place. Using pinking shears, trim approximately 1/4" from all sides of felt, making the resulting piece slightly larger than stitched piece. Glue felt to back of cardboard. Tack twisted-cording hanger to back of ornament.

Twisted-cording instructions are on page 70.

The Prairie Schooler
Post Office Box 8381
Prairie Village, KS 66208
e-mail: *info@prairieschooler.com*
Web site: *www.prairieschooler.com*



©2007 The Prairie Schooler

Cranberry Christmas

Praiseworthy Stitches

Pam Lewis and
Susan Rohm

Christmas is an incredible time of celebration and children. One of our favorite memories is when our children were in the Christmas Pageant at our church. Now that they are all grown up, it is easy to look back and laugh at all the crazy things that can happen in just one little half hour.

This particular year the older children (ages seven to ten years) were the main characters in the play, and the smallest children were angels and sheep. Everything would have been okay if the shepherds could have left the sheep alone. But boys will be boys. The sheep had been rowdy and restless as only two- and three-year-olds can be. After the sheep's entrances during the angels' proclamation, and while the angels (ages four and five) were taking a little longer exit than they were supposed to, the sheep started acting like sheep. The sheep began baaing and baaing. They then disrupted the shepherds by sitting on the shepherd's feet and crawling around. Well, all the adult's attention had shifted to the angel problem, so they did not realize that there was a sheep problem until one of the shepherds took his crook and rolled one of the sheep right off the stage. Needless to say, things were interesting. The other sheep started crying, and the whole program had to pause so that the sheep and angels could clear the stage for the wise men. At the end of the program, Mary and one of the shepherds left the stage holding hands. It was one of the most memorable programs we have had.

Praiseworthy Fudge

2¼ c. sugar
¼ c. butter
1 c. marshmallow creme
¼ tsp. salt
1 c. evaporated milk
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 (6-oz.) pkg. semisweet chocolate morsels
1 c. nuts

Butter one 9" x 9" baking pan; set aside.

In medium saucepan over medium heat, combine sugar, butter, marshmallow creme, salt, and milk. Stirring constantly, bring mixture to a boil. Boil for 5 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla and chocolate morsels. Stir until chocolate is melted. Stir in nuts.

Spread in prepared pan and let cool. Cut into small pieces and serve. Store in a cool place.

Praiseworthy Stitches
Post Office Box 781
Dallas, NC 28034
e-mail: *praiseworthystch@bellsouth.net*
Web site: *www.praiseworthystitches.com*

PEACE

Designed by Pam Lewis and Susan Rohm of Praiseworthy Stitches

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	0312	(3857)	currant
	0110	(3051)	dried thyme

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	7044	(931)	dungarees

Just Another Button Company™

3314.X	extra-large golden star
4426	blue bulb
4427	red bulb
4428	green bulb
4429	gold bulb

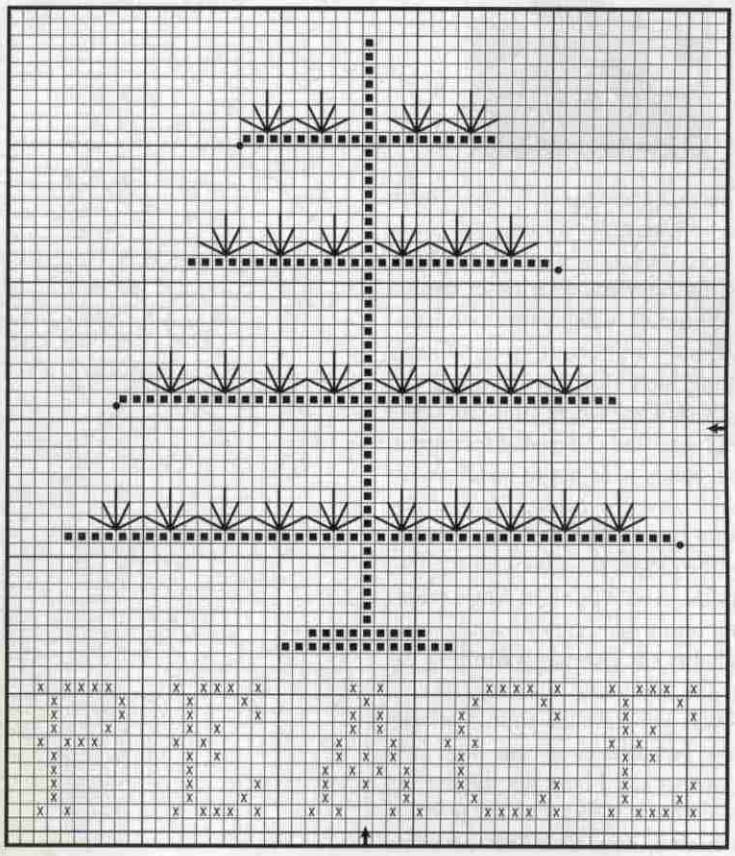
Mill Hill® Seed Beads

02058	white

Mill Hill® Antique Seed Beads

03003	antique cranberry

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 32-count vintage tundra linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 57H x 49W
Design size: 3⅝" x 3⅛"



©2007 Praiseworthy Stitches

Peace

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work modified ray stitch, using two strands 0110.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

For garland, string beads onto one strand coordinating floss. (**Note:** Alternate four white and one red bead for a total of 24 sections.) Referring to photo, drape garland across tree, tacking at the end of each branch where • appears.

Photo is on page 18.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Trim and hanger was made using purchased gold trim.

Raise the Roof Designs

Sue Rainer and
Theresa Venette

I (Theresa) grew up in Fargo, North Dakota, so Christmas meant cold. Snow usually forced us inside shortly after Halloween (during which we trick-or-treated in our costumes, which were concealed under layers of winter outerwear). Going out during December meant doing the "icy-walk-shuffle," where your feet never left the ground and you moved forward in tiny increments so as not to break a wrist or an ankle. Boots were lost in snowdrifts. Cars were shoveled out of piles left behind by the plows. Tongues were stuck to metal poles. And Midnight Mass meant climbing into a dark, frosty back seat before and after the glowing warmth of the church. I've witnessed the kind of cold that freezes your eyelids shut. I've seen the shiny parentheses of sun dogs in a bright January sky. I have felt the burn of a snowball that is 90% ice hit my face.

This is why, now that I've moved to Mississippi, I will relish a cup of Russian Tea, sipped slowly on my deck, in December no less, raising it first in tribute to those I know up north.

I believe this is called "Russian Tea" because the Russians drink an orange spiced tea. I drank a lot of this growing up and still do.

Russian Tea

2 c. Tang® powdered breakfast drink
1/3 c. pre-sweetened lemonade mix
1/2 c. instant tea
3/4 c. sugar
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground cloves
1/4 tsp. ground allspice

In a resealable container, combine all ingredients; mix well.

Mix 1–2 teaspoons in a mug of hot water.

Raise the Roof Designs
6102 US Highway 98 #6
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
e-mail: *raisetheroofdesigns@yahoo.com*
Web site: *www.raisetheroofdesigns.com*

BE MERRY

Designed by Theresa Venette
of Raise the Roof Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	0390	(498)	buckeye scarlet
•	1140	(3823)	oatmeal

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	7042	(310)	raven
✳	7009	(3716)	melon patch

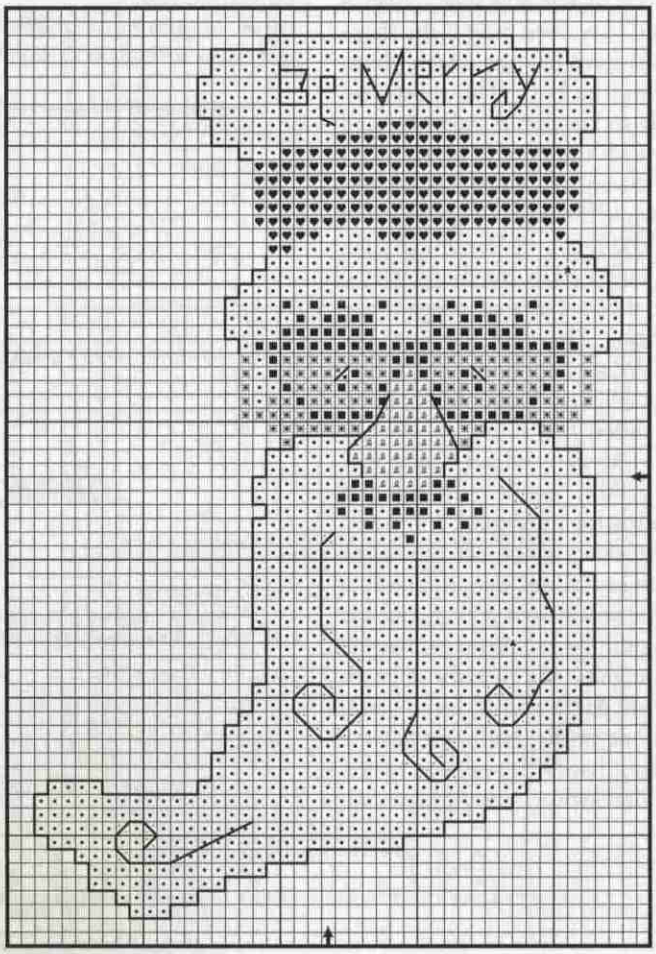
DMC® Anchor®

ℓ	151	74	dusty rose, vy. lt.
	535	401	ash gray, vy. lt.

Just Another Button Company™

★	4447.SD	small double holly
▲	ap1000.S	small applique heart

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 32-count natural Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 64H x 43W
Design size: 4" x 2 3/4"



©2007 Raise the Roof Designs

Be Merry

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss.

Photo is on page 16.

Backstitch instructions:

raven		lettering; eyes
535	401	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament-finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording is made from DMC® B5200 and 349. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Rosewood Manor

Karen Kluba

Happy holidays! This will be an exciting holiday season for us since it's our turn for our daughters and their husbands to come to our house, rather than go to the in-laws. With all four of them home, we will have a huge tree filled with special ornaments. Actually, we have two trees—a huge one in the family room and a smaller one that shows through the windows in the front of the house. Our huge tree has all snowflake ornaments and icicles on it with loads of little white lights. The smaller tree has colored lights and loads of fun ornaments we've collected.

I bake dozens and dozens of cookies for the holidays, so we like to have some veggies with a dip on the menu for snacks and holiday parties. This recipe is one I thought up myself several years ago, and we love it! I usually double the recipe. If there are leftovers, I mix a little milk with it and use it as a salad dressing.

Veggie Dip

1 (8-oz.) pkg. sour cream
1 (4-oz.) pkg. blue-cheese crumbles
1 Tbsp. mayonnaise
1 tsp. dried parsley flakes
1 pinch garlic powder

In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients; mix well. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.

Serve with fresh bite-sized veggies such as carrots, celery, green and red peppers, mushrooms, cauliflower, broccoli, grape tomatoes, and radishes.

VICTORIAN LACE SNOWFLAKE

Designed by Karen Kluba of Rosewood Manor

DMC® Anchor®

926	850	gray-green, med.

Kreinik® Blending Filament

032	pearl

Mill Hill® Antique Seed Beads

● 03007		silver moon

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count antique white Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 66H x 62W
Design size: 4 3/4" x 4 1/2"

Instructions: Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss and one strand of blending filament.

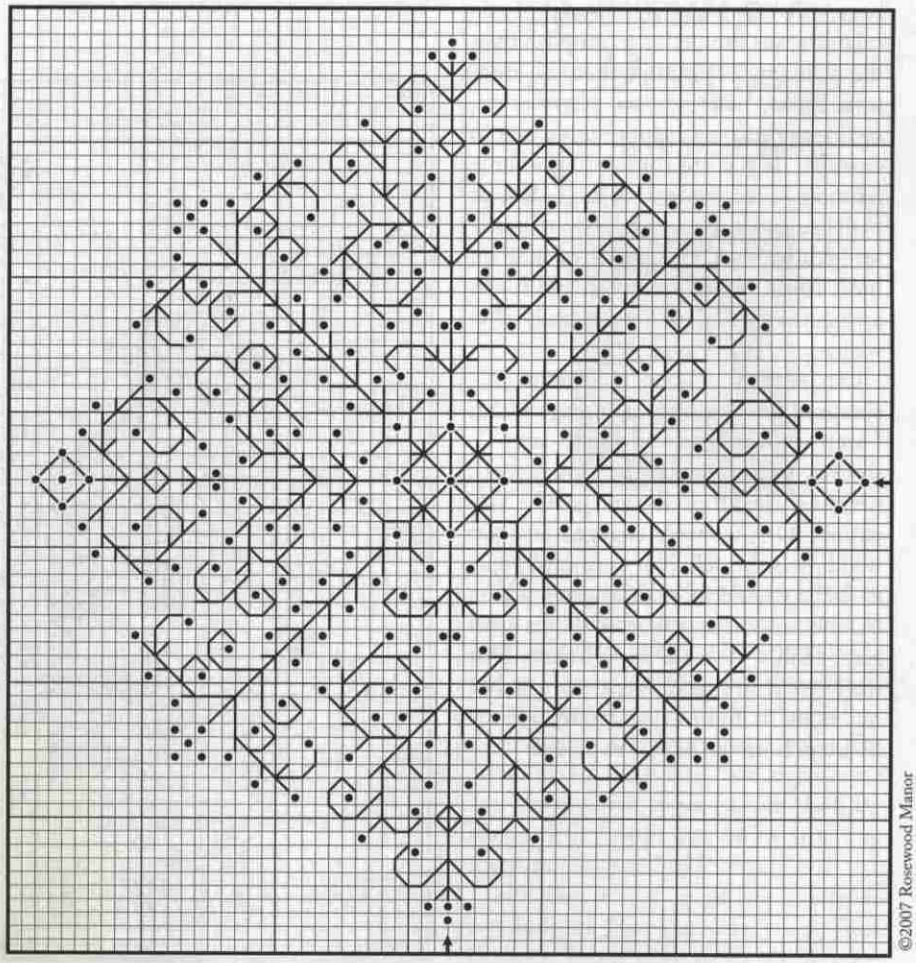
Attach beads, using one strand 926/850 and a half cross stitch.

Photo is on page 28.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat ornament-finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording and hanger made from DMC® 926 and Kreinik® Blending Filament 032. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Finished by Marilyn Clanin

Rosewood Manor
13531 Six Points Road
Carmel, IN 46032
e-mail: *karen@rosewoodxstitch.com*
Web site: *www.rosewoodxstitch.com*



©2007 Rosewood Manor

Victorian Lace Snowflake

SamSarah Design Studio

Patti Connor

In our ever-evolving Christmas traditions, this year will include one of my favorite changes—the addition of new family members to our home! Early this year, we decided it was time for my 80-year-old mom to no longer live alone. At the end of February, my mom and her cat moved from Apache Junction, Arizona, into our home. The actual physical move was simpler to accomplish than the changing of health insurance, doctors, banks, hair stylists, pharmacists, favorite stores, and helping three cats to co-exist. If you are considering a similar move, I recommend a large dose of patience and a wireless telephone headset because you'll spend a lot of time on hold. Mom is now settled in and is enjoying the family, and we're really glad we have this time together.

Our second addition is a grand celebration! Last spring, at the age of 51, I went on my first-ever blind date. To shorten what is a fun, but long, story, we just clicked from the get-go. On Valentine's Day, we were engaged and our wedding is this fall. Not only am I lucky to find a wonderful man whom I adore, but he comes complete with his own great family. We are so fortunate. Our mail box is full of different names, but our home is full of one family. Happy holidays from our family to yours!

WINTER LOVE

Designed by Patti Connor
of SamSarah Design Studio

Crescent Colours Belle Soie
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	sister scarlet	(304)
ℓ	kiwi	(3053)
X	cinnamon stick	(434)
■	noir	(3799)
.	vanilla pudding	(3865)

Just Another Button Company™

1113.T	tiny frank's cardinal
3340.M	medium red velvet heart
3340.S	small red velvet heart

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count autumn field Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 57H x 56W
Design size: $3\frac{5}{8}$" x $3\frac{1}{2}$"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of silk floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands noir.

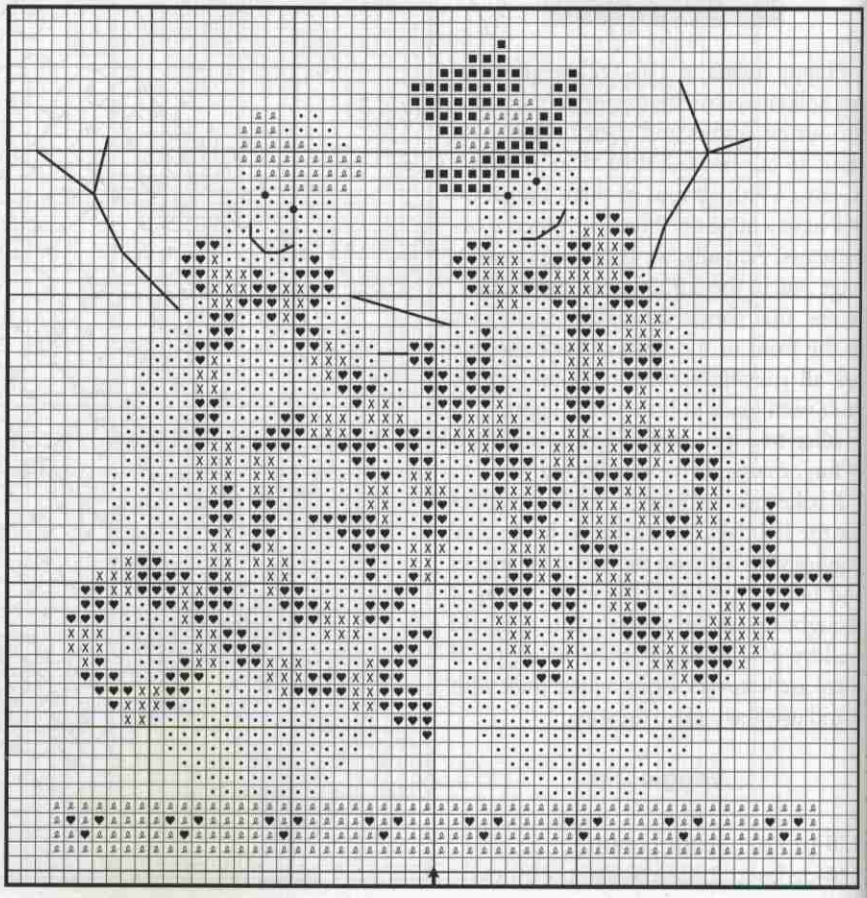
Work French knots where • appears, using two strands noir and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 23.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Hanger was made using purchased $\frac{3}{8}$"-diameter satin ribbon.

SamSarah Design Studio
140 Oakland Drive
Troy, IL 62294
e-mail: *samsarahdesign@msn.com*
Web site:
www.samsarahdesignstudio.com



Winter Love

Scandinavian Stitches

Lynda Baldauf

This almond roca recipe is a family favorite, courtesy of my Aunt Carol!

Carol's Almond Roca

2 c. blanched almonds
1 c. butter
1 c. sugar
1 Tbsp. light corn syrup
3 Tbsp. water
1 dash salt
1 (12-oz.) semisweet or dark chocolate morsels, melted

Preheat oven to 350°. Lightly butter a 10" x 15" jelly roll pan; set aside. (**Note:** Keep pan in heated oven until ready to use. This helps the brittle spread more easily.) Line one baking sheet with waxed paper; set aside.

Place almonds on a second baking sheet and toast for 10–15 minutes, or until lightly colored.

Allow to cool; finely chop one cup of almonds; set aside. Chop remaining cup coarsely and set aside.

In a saucepan over medium heat, melt butter. Stir in sugar, corn syrup, water and salt. Cook over medium heat until it reaches 300° on a candy thermometer (hard crack stage).

Stir in coarsely chopped nuts; quickly pour into prepared pan. Spread evenly and cool until hard. Wipe off excess butter with paper towel. Turn out onto prepared baking sheet. Wipe off excess butter on exposed side of brittle. Coat one side of brittle with chocolate; sprinkle with finely chopped nuts. Allow to cool and chocolate to set. If desired, turn brittle over and repeat process.

Break into pieces and store in a tightly covered container in refrigerator.

CHRISTMAS TREE

Designed by Lynda Baldauf of Scandinavian Stitches

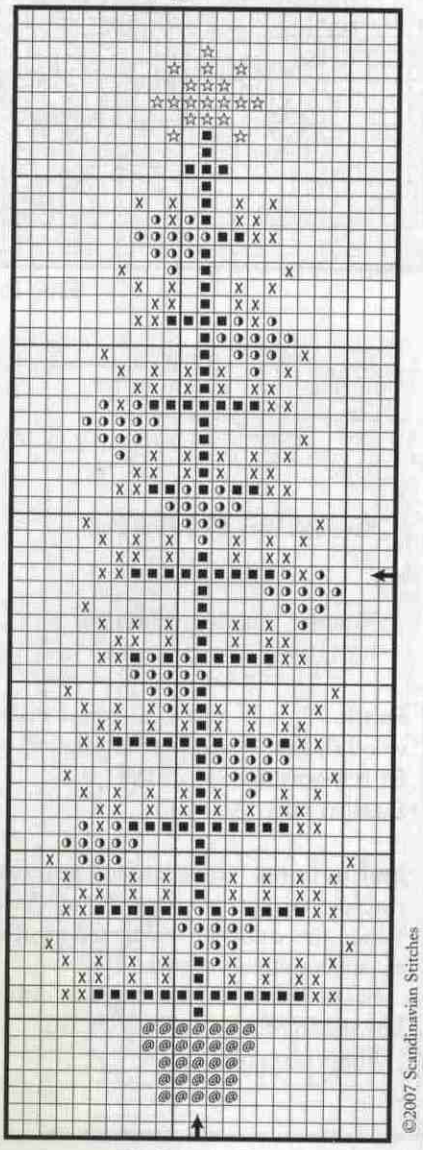
Danish Flower Thread
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	100 (987)	leaf green
■	238 (319)	forest green
◑	400 (321)	dark red
☆	47 (725)	gold
@	216 (839)	brown

Fabric: 12" piece 25-count (4cm-wide) linen banding from Scandinavian Stitches
Stitch count: 63H x 19W
Design size: 5 1/8" x 1 5/8"

Instructions: Center design on banding. Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Photo is on page 13.



Christmas Tree

©2007 Scandinavian Stitches

Finishing instructions: Thread cut ends of linen banding through 4-cm wide bellpull hardware (available from Scandinavian Stitches). Overlap cut ends of banding by 1/4", forming a continuous loop of fabric, and secure with a ladder or slip stitch. Flatten loop, finger pressing folds once design is centered. Using matching sewing thread, sew a running stitch along each long side.

Scandinavian Stitches
Post Office Box 501
Riverside, CT 06878
e-mail: *info@scandinavianstitches.com*
Web site: *www.scandinavianstitches.com*

Serendipity Designs

Carolyn Meacham

The bells of Christmas are ringing hope and joy into a world much in need of both. The combination of the natural linen and the gold metallics is a look that I particularly like. I love traditions at Christmas, and bells, ribbons, holly, mistletoe, and evergreens are always the basis of our holiday decorating. I hope you enjoy stitching them as much as I did.

This recipe is a great one for feeding holiday house guests when time is short. From start to finish, it takes about 10–15 minutes.

Fast & Fancy Chicken

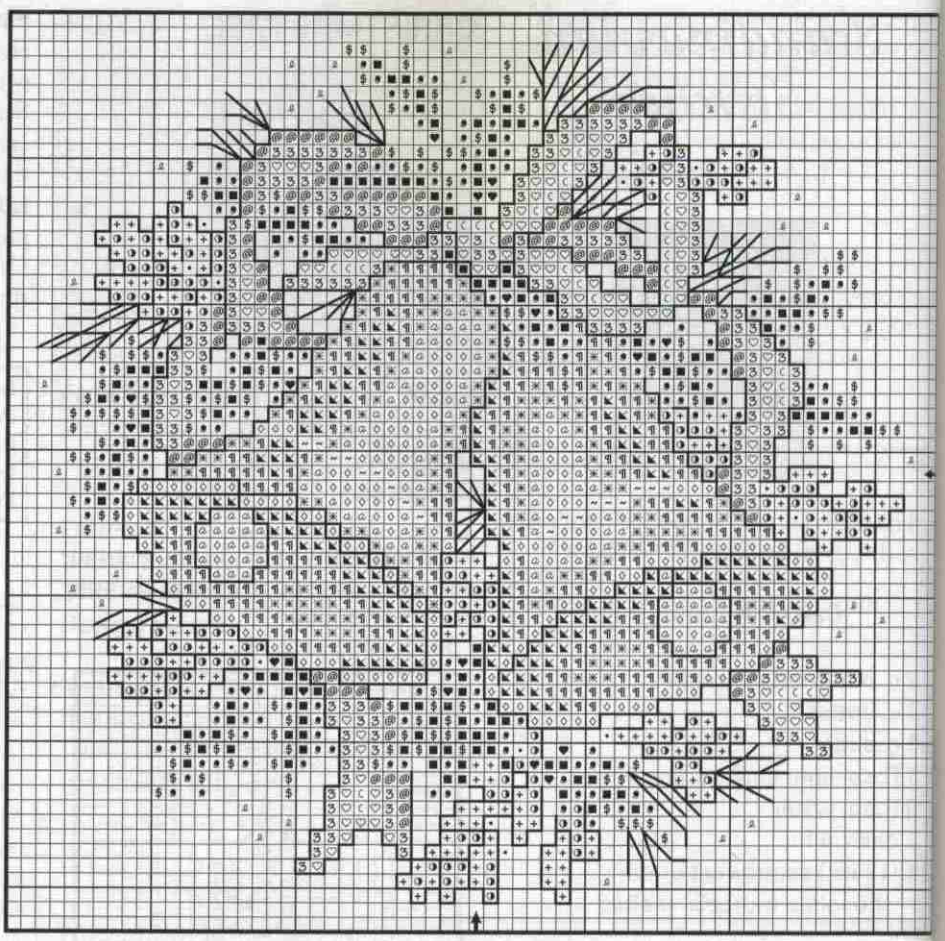
4 chicken breast halves
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste
3 Tbsp. olive oil
1/2 c. white wine
1/2 c. heavy cream
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 dash oregano or tarragon (or your favorite herb)

Slice chicken breasts in half sideways, forming two thin, flat pieces. Season with salt and pepper.

In a frying pan, heat olive oil over medium heat. Fry chicken until brown on both sides and cooked through. Remove chicken and cover with foil.

Add wine to pan and deglaze the bottom of the pan. (**Note:** If wine evaporates too quickly, add more wine or water.) Stir in cream, garlic, and herbs. Cook until thick, adding more cream or water to achieve desired consistency. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Top chicken with sauce and serve. Serves 4–6.



Ring in the Joy

RING IN THE JOY

Designed by Carolyn Meacham of Serendipity Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
~	746	275	off white
☾	761	1021	salmon, lt.
♡	760	1022	salmon
3	3712	1023	salmon, med.
@	3328	1024	salmon, dk.
♥	321	47	red
+	523	859	fern green, lt.
◑	3363	262	pine green, med.
■	319	1044	pistachio green, vy. dk.
$	368	214	pistachio green, lt.
	320	215	pistachio green, med.
•	320	215	pistachio green, med.
	367	216	pistachio green, dk.
◊	677	361	old gold, vy. lt.
	002HL Kreinik® BF		gold hi lustre
⌂	676	891	old gold, lt.
	002HL Kreinik® BF		gold hi lustre
✳	729	890	old gold, med.
	002HL Kreinik® BF		gold hi lustre
¶	680	901	old gold, dk.
	002HL Kreinik® BF		gold hi lustre
◣	420	374	hazelnut brown, dk.
	002HL Kreinik® BF		gold hi lustre
ℓ	522	860	fern green
	002HL Kreinik® BF		gold hi lustre
	309	42	rose, dk.
	869	375	hazelnut brown, vy. dk.
	3362	263	pine green, dk.

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

.	032	pearl

Kreinik® Blending Filament

002HL	gold, hi lustre

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count driftwood Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 59H x 61W
Design size: 3 3/4" x 3 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of each.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Photo is on page 26.

Backstitch instructions:

869	375	bells
309	42	ribbons
3362	263	leaves
319	1044	pine needles

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat ornament-finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording and hanger are made using DMC® 642 and Kreinik® 002HL Very Fine Braid #8. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Serendipity Designs
11612 Busy Street
Richmond, VA 23236
e-mail: *cmmeacham@aol.com*
Web site: *www.serendipitydesigns.com*

Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Teri Richards and
Tina Richards Herman

The first Christmas I (Tina) was married, I made this dish to take to Bob's family. Now it seems to be the thing I take to any party—my family or his. It is delicious and pretty easy to make. Try it for Christmas dinner, and everyone will want seconds on vegetables. Happy holidays!

Holiday Broccoli

1–2 lbs. fresh broccoli, washed and trimmed to bite-size pieces
1 tsp. chicken bouillon granules
2 Tbsp. hot water
1/4 c. butter
1/2 c. all-purpose flour
2 c. half-and-half
3 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
Salt and pepper to taste
1 1/2 c. grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350°. Butter a 9" x 13" casserole pan; set aside.

In a steamer over medium heat, steam broccoli. Drain well. (**Note:** I pour it out on a kitchen towel to remove all water.) Pour broccoli into prepared pan.

In a large saucepan over medium heat, dissolve bouillon granules in hot water. Add butter and melt. Stir in flour and blend carefully. Add half-and-half; cook, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil and thickens. Add lemon juice, salt, and pepper; mix well. Stir in Parmesan cheese.

Pour mixture over broccoli. Bake for 15 minutes. Serve immediately.

SWEET BABY

Designed by Tina Richards Herman of Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

¢	2196	(3052)	suppernong
◑	1233	(839)	cocoa
■	1304	(844)	onyx
&	1332	(223)	red pear
@	2321	(3041)	plum
♥	1336	(315)	raspberry
★	1223	(729)	Schneckley
	2158	(934)	juniper

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

○	0430	(676)	summer meadow

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

.	7027	(822)	parchment
✳	7050	(3363)	baby spinach

DMC® Anchor®

♀	950	4146	desert sand, lt.

Shepherd's Bush Charms
- sterling silver moon

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 32-count hand-dyed dark espresso linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 42H x 42W
Design size: 2 5/8" x 2 5/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Attach charm, using one strand of coordinating floss.

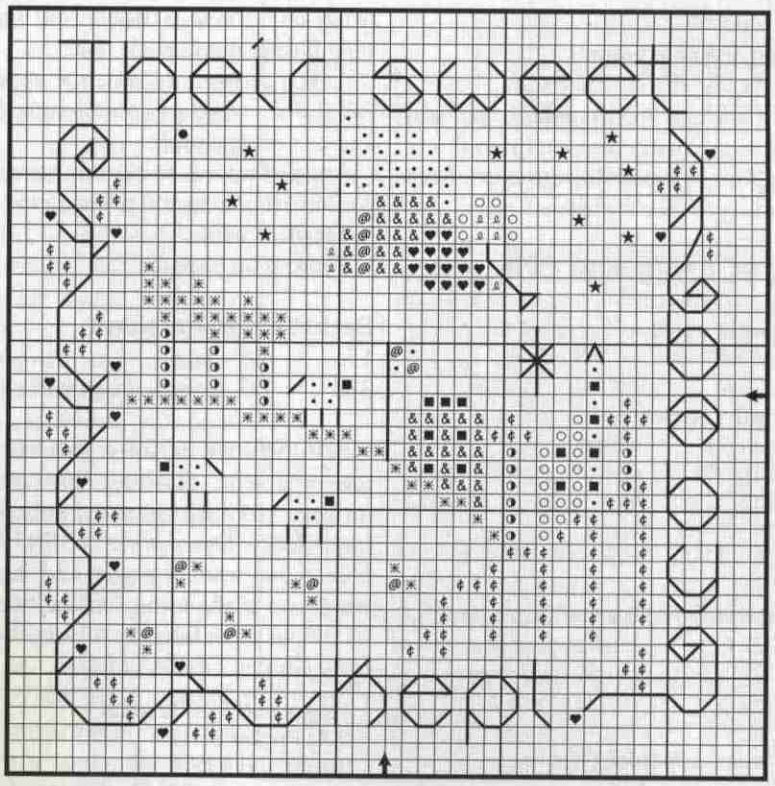
Photo is on page 20.

Backstitch instructions:

2321	lettering
2158	vines, stems
1223	roof, horn, star
1304	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Hanger was made using purchased 5/8"-diameter silk ribbon.

Shepherd's Bush Printworks
220 24th Street
Ogden, UT 84401
Web site: *www.shepherdsbush.net*



©2007 Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Sweet Baby

Sisters and Best Friends

Amy K. Bruecken and
Koneta A. Hurlstone

If you have met us, you know we can be a bit flaky. Loveable, hopefully, and yet still flaky.

At the holidays, we look forward to family, traditions, memories to be made, and memories to reflect upon. We are happy to share this silly snowman with our cross-stitch friends. We hope you all have a very merry little Christmas.

This recipe comes from Bridget, our flaky friend.

Bridget's Flaky Piecrust

1 c. all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 c. Crisco®
3 Tbsp. ice cold water

In a medium bowl, combine flour and salt. Using a pastry blender, cut in shortening. Stir in water. Roll out crust. Bake according to your favorite pie recipe.

ALL FLAKES WELCOME

Designed by Amy Bruecken and Koneta Ann Hurlstone of Sisters and Best Friends

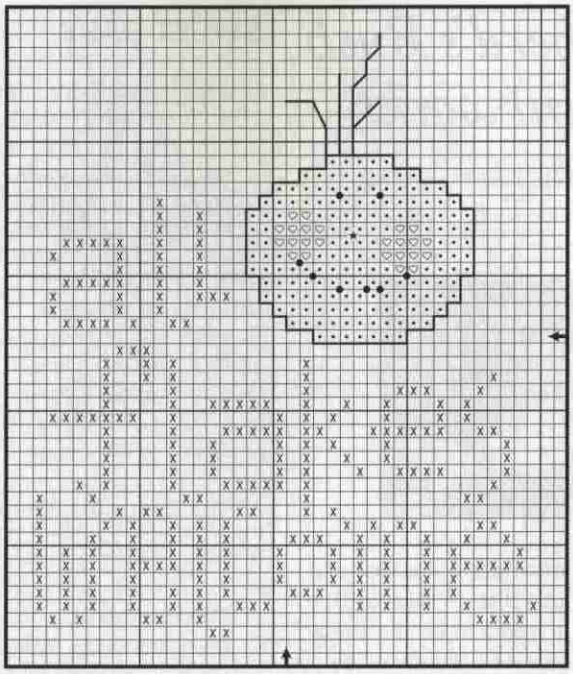
DMC®	Anchor®	
. blanc	2	white
♡ 3731	76	dusty rose, vy. dk.
X 333	119	blue-violet, vy. dk.
310	403	black
156	118	blue-violet, med. lt.

Just Another Button Company™

3320.S	small tropical ocean star
3370	purple ken buttons (2)
4442.S	small snowflake (3)

Sisters and Best Friends

★ pointy carrot nose



©2007 Sisters and Best Friends

All Flakes Welcome

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 28-count snow squall linen from Crossed Wing Collection
Stitch count: 45H x 38W
Design size: 3 1/4" x 2 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work French knot where • appears, using one strand 310/403 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach carrot nose where ★ appears, using one strand of coordinating floss and centering on face.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo is on page 23.

Backstitch instructions:

156	118	face
310	403	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Model was finished using Weeks Dye Works™ #2118HT blue topaz wool. Hanger and looped trim were made using On the Surface 04 purple Little Charmers Fancy Beads from Norden Crafts, Ltd.

Sisters and Best Friends
4332 Rugby Drive
Toledo, OH 43614
e-mail: *sisters4332@aol.com*

Still Stitching with Susan, LLC

Susan Greening Davis

It is interesting to think back on Christmas traditions that were part of your parents' lives and think how times change.

I remember my mom sharing this one, many years ago. She was from a farming family and lived in a large old house. The living room, one of the few with good heat, had a door (sort of a fold-up screen) that would be closed when they were in there. This door was very important to their Christmas tree presentation. A large feather type tree was brought into the house after they were asleep on December 23. Mom's parents decorated it on Christmas Eve day. That evening, my mom and her brothers were led into the room to see the tree. It was decorated with many old ornaments

that my grandparents had brought from Yugoslavia, and there were real lighted candles on the branch ends!

This always fascinated my imagination as I couldn't imagine walking in and seeing such a beautiful sight—even knowing that the candles were blown out very quickly.

This ornament is in memory of my grandparents and the memories they gave my mom that she then shared with us. Let the light shine softly on you through this holiday season!

Hot Crab Dip

1½ c. crab meat, chopped
2 medium onions, chopped
1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese
1 c. mayonnaise
1 tsp. hot sauce

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients.

Pour into a 9" x 9" baking dish. Bake for 20 minutes. Serve with warm toast or your favorite crackers.

A CANDLE TO LIGHT THE WAY

Designed by Susan Greening Davis
of Still Stitching with Susan, LLC

DMC®	Anchor® Pearl Cotton #8	
. ecru	387	ecru
○ ecru	387	ecru (boss stitch over two)

Fabric: 5" x 7" pieces 28-count cream Quaker cloth from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 51H x 40W
Design size: 4" x 21/2"

Instructions: Backstitch over two threads where heavy black lines appear on left and right sides of design, using one strand pearl cotton.

Areas 1 and 7—Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads where large ✳ appears on chart, using one strand of pearl cotton.

Work cross stitch over two threads in between layers of Smyrna cross stitches, using one strand of pearl cotton.

Areas 2 and 6—Work herringbone stitch over four threads, using one strand pearl cotton and working shortened compensated stitches at beginning and end of row. Referring to stitch illustration on page ???, wrap herringbone stitches, using one strand pearl cotton.

Areas 3 and 5—Work Hungarian stitch, using one strand pearl cotton.

Area 4—Work Kloster blocks over four threads, using one strand pearl cotton.

Using small, sharp scissors, carefully cut and withdraw fabric threads where red lines appear on chart. Using one strand pearl cotton, work woven bars over remaining fabric threads in center of Kloster-block motif.

Photo is on page 29.

Finishing materials and instructions:
One package Mill Hill® #18123 cream pony beads
One package Mill Hill® #00123 cream seed beads
Beading thread
Beading needle
One 8½" battery-powered brass candle lamp

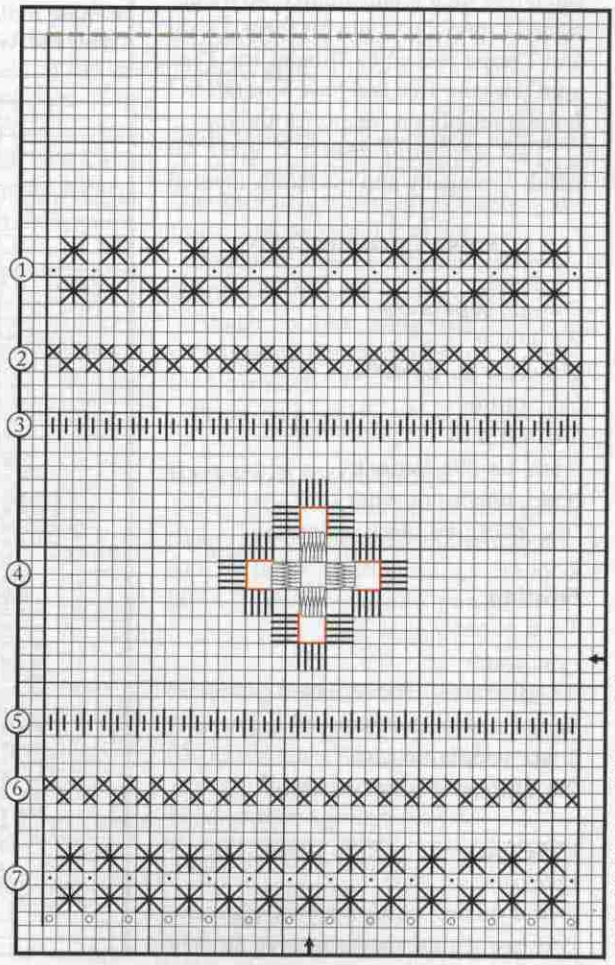
Trim fabric to ½" from fold line at top of design (indicated on chart) and ½" from boss stitches at bottom of design. Trim sides to ¼" from backstitches. Finger press seam allowances to wrong side along fold line (indicated on chart) and lower edge of boss stitches and along backstitches. Using one strand pearl cotton, lace sides together through backstitches.

Secure beginning bead of ruffled beaded edge. Knot one end of 36" length of beading thread and hide knot in seam allowance of top-left edge of ornament. Referring to illustration, thread one pony bead onto beading needle; insert needle into folded edge of fabric. Stitch through bead a second time on opposite side of bead, causing hole in bead to lay flat against fold.

Complete first beading journey across top of ornament. After securing beginning bead, thread two pony beads onto needle. Insert needle into fold of fabric directly beside first bead. Run needle under one fabric thread along folded edge. Reinsert needle into second bead only and pull working thread taut to make second bead lay flat against seamline. Repeat until beginning point is reached; secure final bead to fabric with several small stitches.

Complete second beading journey around ornament. Thread two seed beads onto needle. Insert needle through the final pony bead from initial journey around top. (**Note:** Needle will never enter fabric on second journey.) Thread two seed beads onto needle in between every pony bead, causing beading to take on a ruffled appearance. When beginning point is reached, pull working thread taut and secure to fabric with several small stitches. Knot thread, hiding knot on inside seam of fabric.

Still Stitching with Susan, LLC
418 East Tyrell Street
St. Louis, MI 48880
e-mail: *sgreeningd@aol.com*
Web site:
www.susangreeningdavis.com



A Candle To Light the Way

©2007 Still Stitching with Susan, LLC

The Stitchworks, Ltd.

Cindy and David

Our holiday time is always filled with such special moments with family and friends. We gather at our house, take out all the holiday decorations, and let the grandchildren and children help decorate the numerous trees we put up. One tree each year is decorated in a theme, and this year it is penguins! Our grandsons, Cameron and Foster, loved watching *Happy Feet* and decided we needed a tree full of penguins. Of course, who can refuse their grandchildren, so we designed a special penguin for them. David and I hope you enjoy "Jingles the Penguin" for your tree and have a wonderful holiday full of new memories and joy.

This wonderful dessert is great for holiday company, and my family loves it!

Fresh Coconut Cake

6 eggs, separated
2 c. sugar
2 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1/2 c. butter
1 c. hot milk
1 tsp. vanilla extract
3 tsp. baking powder
1/2 c. chopped black walnuts

Frosting:
1 1/2 c. sugar
1/2 c. water
4 egg whites (from cake)
1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 c. shredded fresh coconut

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease three 9" cake pans; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat six egg yolks, two egg whites, and sugar at medium speed for at least five minutes, or until light and fluffy, at least 5 minutes. Add 1/2 c. flour, beating slowly.

In another bowl, melt butter in hot milk. Add half of milk mixture to egg mixture along with 1 c. flour. Then add in remaining hot milk. Next, add remaining flour, vanilla, baking powder, and nuts. Pour into prepared pans. Bake for 20 minutes. Cool slightly before removing from pans.

For frosting, boil sugar and water for 2 minutes in a saucepan over medium heat.

In a mixing bowl, beat egg whites and cream of tartar until stiff peaks form. Slowly pour boiling syrup into the egg whites, beating at highest speed of mixer. When frosting becomes stiff enough to spread (2–4 minutes), add vanilla extract. Spread between the layers, on top, and sides of cake. Sprinkle with coconut.

Enjoy!

The Stitchworks, Ltd.
6011 South Sheridan Road
Tulsa, OK 74145
e-mail: *mail@stitchworks.com*
Web site: www.stitchworks.com

JINGLES THE PENGUIN

Designed by Cindy and David Morrill of The Stitchworks, Ltd.™

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #5

•	blanc	2	white
■	310	403	black
◑	814	45	garnet, dk.
☆	922	1003	copper, lt.

The Stitchworks™ Fizz
○ white
✶ variegated red

The Stitchworks™ Buttons
◆ penguin nose

The Stitchworks™
★ 5mm silver jingle bell

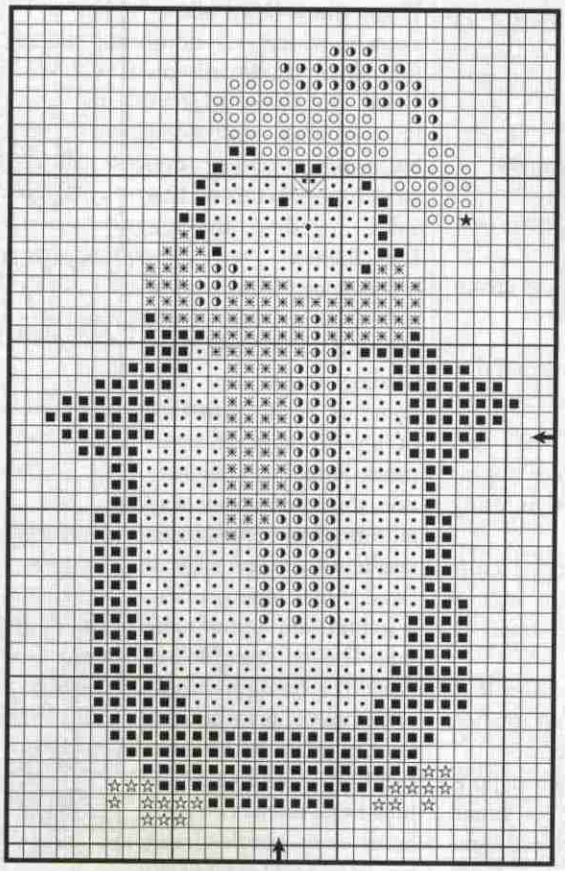
Fabric: 9" x 7" piece 18-count lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 47H x 29W
Design size: 5 1/4" x 3 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of pearl cotton.

Attach button and bell, using one strand coordinating floss.

Photo is on page 24.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording and hanger was made using DMC® Pearl Cotton #5 blanc and Fizz #7128. Twisted-cording



©2007 The Stitchworks, Ltd.

Jingles the Penguin

Sue Hillis Designs, Inc.

Sue Hillis

These homemade caramels are a huge hit with my family. It is not a difficult recipe, but there are a few steps you can do to make it easier.

1. Make sure your candy thermometer is calibrated correctly—put it into a pot of boiling water and make sure it reads exactly 212 degrees or adjust accordingly.

2. Cut waxed paper ahead of time to wrap the caramels in—about 3" x 4".

3. Have a glass of water with ice to test the candy as it gets close to the required temperature.

4. Cut a piece of parchment paper for the bottom of the 9" x 13" pan. You can just butter the pan, but parchment paper is easier.

5. Use a heavy saucepan (I use a Dutch oven) for this recipe. The mixture will bubble up as it boils, so you need a pan that is at least 2"–3" deeper than the mixture starts out.

6. Don't have your kids underfoot for this recipe.

I promise this is worth the effort!

Sue's Favorite Caramel Recipe

2 c. sugar
1 c. packed brown sugar
¾ c. corn syrup
¼ c. honey
1 c. evaporated milk
2 c. heavy whipping cream
1 c. butter
1¼ tsp. vanilla extract
1½ c. chopped nuts (optional)

Line a 9" x 13" baking pan with parchment paper, or butter the pan.

In a heavy-bottom saucepan over medium heat, combine sugars, corn syrup, honey, evaporated milk, cream, and butter.

Monitor the heat of the mixture while stirring. Depending on the weather and humidity, there could be a slight variation of the exact temperature. As the candy approaches 245–250° F (about 120° C), test the mixture by dropping a swirl into the ice water. Feel the swirl with your fingers; you want the candy to be firm but not hard (think about your teeth!)

It usually takes about 45–60 minutes of cooking to get to the right consistency. If you are using a heavy pan, you don't need to stir it continuously, but you do need to keep your eye on it so it doesn't scorch.

When the candy thermometer reaches the desired temperature, immediately remove it from the heat and stir in the vanilla. (**Note:** If you are adding nuts, allow sugar mixture to cool a bit before adding.) Pour into prepared pan and let cool. Use a plastic knife to cut into rectangles, wrap in waxed paper, and twist the ends. Yummy!

SPOOL ORNAMENT

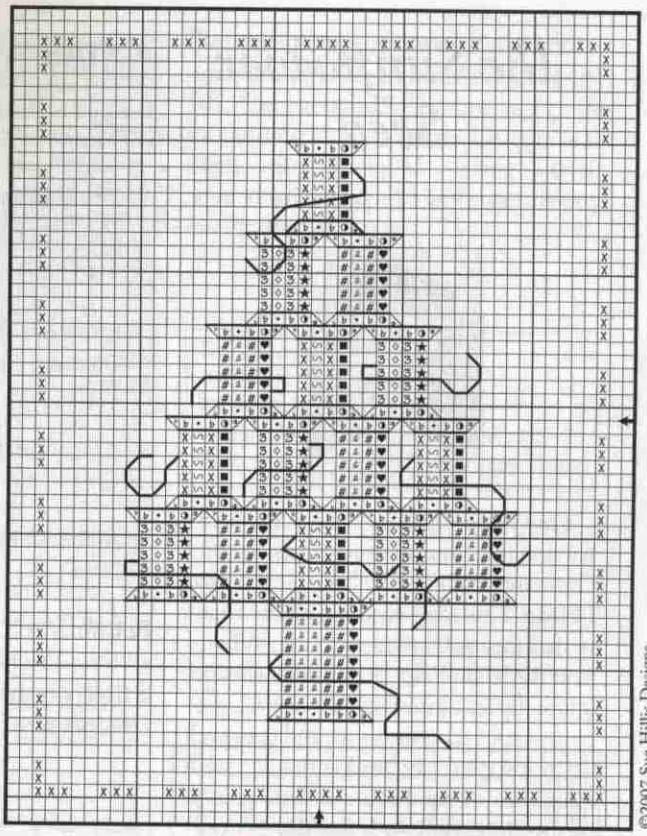
Designed by Sue Hillis of Sue Hillis Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
◊	3822	295	straw, lt.
★	3820	306	straw, dk.
#	349	13	coral, dk.
∩	320	215	pistachio green, med.
■	319	1044	pistachio green, vy. dk.
♭	437	362	tan, lt.
3	3821	305	straw
ℓ	350	11	coral, med.
♥	817	13	coral, vy. dk.
X	367	216	pistachio green, dk.
.	738	361	tan, vy. lt.
◑	436	363	tan
	801	359	coffee brown, dk.

Just Another Button Company™

3360	red ken (4)
3359	green ken (4)

Fabric: 9" x 7" piece 28-count antique white Lugana® from Zweigart®



©2007 Sue Hillis Designs

Spool Ornament

Stitch count: 58H x 44W
Design size: 4¼" x 3¼"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss. Work quarter stitch where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of floss unless otherwise noted.

Attach buttons, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Photo on page 18.

Backstitch instructions:

3820	306	thread from yellow spools
817	13	thread from red spools
319	1044	thread from green spools
801	359	remainder of backstitch (one strand)

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page xx. Model was embellished with red buttons at corners. Hanger was made using purchased ⅜"-diamter red grosgrain ribbon.

Sue Hillis Designs, Inc.
11610 Busy Street
Richmond, VA 23236
e-mail: *suehillisdesigns@aol.com*
Web site: *www.suehillisdesigns.net*

The Sunflower Seed

Anita Boatright

This year's ornament is my third entry designed around one of my favorite Christmas songs—Do You Hear What I Hear? This song awakens all the beauty that means Christmas to me. When I hear the Mannheim Steamroller version, it literally sends me back in time. Goosebumps appear on my arms, and tears well up in my eyes. My head is flooded with memories of the beautiful little church of my childhood with the domed ceiling and beautifully painted fluffy clouds and glorious angels. The nativity display on the side altar with the magnificent "Three Kings" bearing those wonderful gifts to baby Jesus, holds my childhood attention. And, the most wonderfully decorated "stick" trees in various heights surrounding the nativity glistening with tinsel was a wonderment to see! In my memory, the sparkling snow is gently falling from the night sky as we leave with family and friends. Years later, we would take my eldest son back to that little church of my childhood to add his name to the family baptismal record. So this Christmas, drop in your Mannheim CD in the player, sit down, take a load off, and ask yourself, "Do you 'see,' Do you 'hear,' and Do you 'know' what Christmas is really all about?"

Chocolate Raspberry Trifle

1 pint heavy cream
1–2 oz. amaretto (sugar may be substituted)
1 prepared pound cake
1 (10-oz.) jar seedless raspberry jam, warmed
1 pint fresh raspberries
3/4 c. prepared chocolate sauce
2 oz. sliced almonds, toasted

A STAR, A STAR

Designed by Anita Boatright
of The Sunflower Seed

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥ 0360 (815) cranberry
X 0110 (3362) dried thyme

Rainbow Gallery
Treasure Petite Braid

☆ PB01 bright gold

DMC® Anchor®

■ 3371 382 black-brown

Mill Hill® Petite Seed Beads

○ 40557 gold

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 32-count ivory linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 62H x 62W
Design size: 3 7/8" x 3 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss or one strand of braid.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 3371/382.

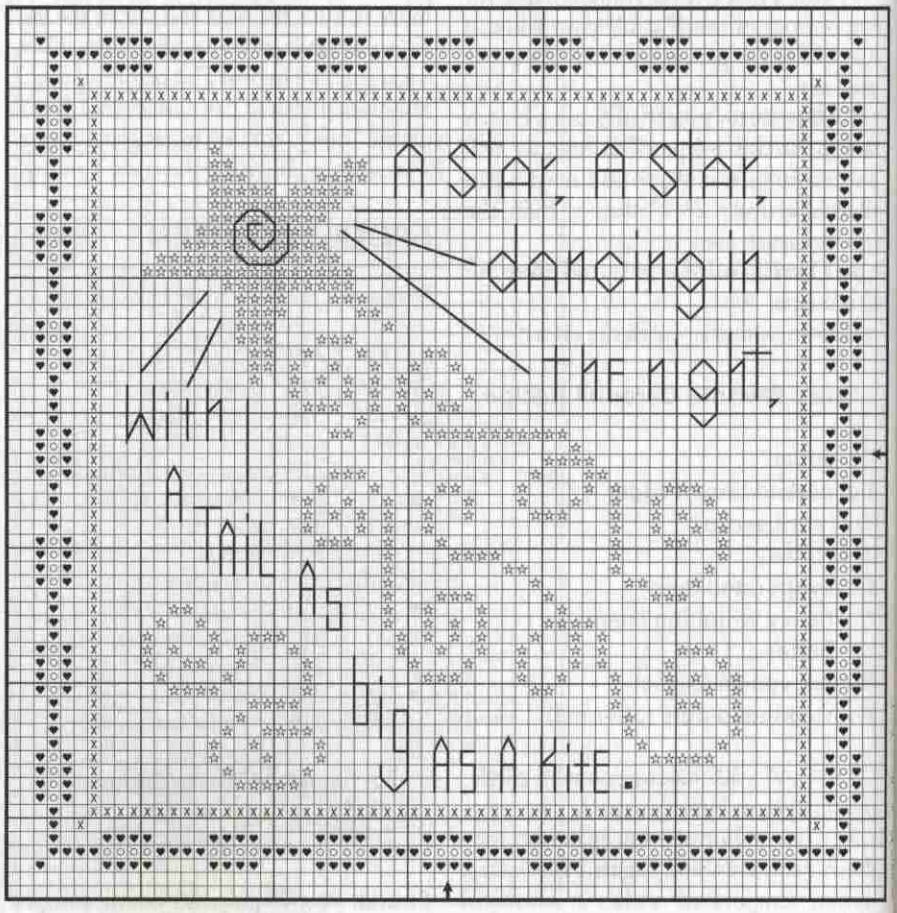
Work long stitch for rays, using one strand PB01.

For border, attach beads in groups of four, using one strand of coordinating floss and a long stitch.

Photo is on page 26.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Trim and hanger was made using purchased gold ribbon and trim.

The Sunflower Seed
4004 South West Huntoon
Topeka, KS 66604
e-mail: *sunflowerseed3@juno.com*
Web site: *www.thesunflowerseed.com*



A Star, A Star

The Sweetheart Tree™

Sandra Cox Vanosdall

As our son, Steve, was approaching two years of age, he experienced first-hand the childhood magic of Christmas. Both my husband, Dave, and I had agreed that every little boy had to have a red wagon—in our minds, this was a must! So off we went in the hunt for the perfect little red wagon for our first-born pride and joy. Since nothing, in our minds, was too good for our son, we ended up buying the "Cadillac of all red wagons" with four removable wooden sides and big black shiny rubber wheels. Christmas arrived that year with snowdrifts as high as your knee and that shiny red wagon under the tree. As a two-year-old, I'm sure Steve had just as good a time with the wrapping paper, boxes, and bows as with the mountain of toys and the wagon itself. But we were proud to have it sitting under the tree for him to play with even if it wouldn't see the outdoors until the snow piles melted in the spring.

What I actually remember most about Steve's red wagon that winter was that our home had a floor plan forming a perfectly circular "race track" going from the kitchen into the dining room, then into the living room, and finally back to the kitchen. Vividly, I remember in the days after Christmas when my husband would pop Steve into the wagon and pull him round and round through the house—all the while singing to him the theme song from the Mickey Mouse Show. Each "lap" they made brought giggles of delight and a loud "More Daddy!" and round and round the two of them would go again until I was certain they had to be dizzy!

Steve is now grown, married, and still our pride and joy, but this hilarious memory of his childhood and the simple joys of family life is one of the most cherished in my mind.

May you enjoy the simple joys of time spent with your family this holiday season.

NOEL CHRISTMAS BELLPULL

Designed by Sandra Cox Vanosdall of The Sweetheart Tree™

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	2153	(502)	cypress
■	1339	(3685)	Bordeaux
	1091	(ecru)	whitewash
	1279	(500)	holly

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #12

ecru	387	ecru

Mill Hill® Magnifica Glass Beads

♥	10033	antique cranberry (25)
◊	10042	vanilla (25)

The Sweetheart Tree™ Paillettes

○	SV-CP250B	crystal clear (4)

Fabric: 8" x 4" piece 32-count metallic opalescent/raw linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 73H x 27W
Design size: $4\frac{5}{8}$" x $1\frac{3}{4}$"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss, unless otherwise noted. Backstitch over one thread for lettering and date, using one strand 1339.

Attach beads, using two strands 1091.

Attach paillettes, using one strand 1091.

Work diamond eyelet over eight threads, using one strand pearl cotton and pulling each leg to open a hole in center of stitch.

Work Rhodes heart over eight threads, using two strands 1339.

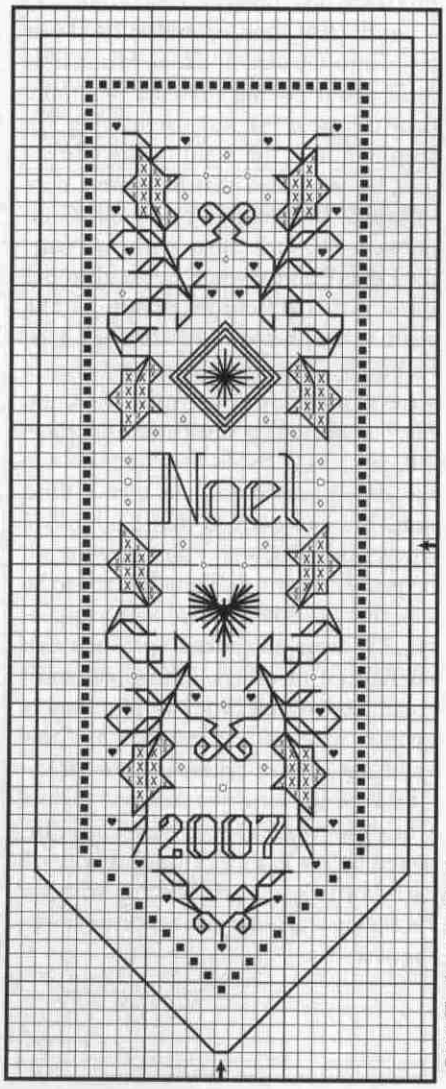
Photo is on page 11.

Backstitch instructions:

1279	outermost border (two strands), outer border surrounding diamond eyelet (two strands), vines, tendrils, leaves
1091	middle border surrounding diamond eyelet (two strands)
1339	inner border surrounding diamond eyelet (two strands)

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Use backstitched outline as a guide for cutting and shaping. Hanger was made using purchased cording. Tassels were made using 2153. Tassel-making instructions are on page 73.

The Sweetheart Tree™
10308 North 48th Place
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
e-mail: *info@sweethearttree.com*
Web site: *www.sweethearttree.com*



©2007 The Sweetheart Tree™

Noel Christmas Bellpull

Thistle Threads

Tricia Wilson Nguyen

Our Christmas this last year was so much fun as my extended family came to my home. It was the first time they did that when I wasn't weeks from giving birth or with a days old baby in hand! So this time, I really got to pull my inner Martha out and show them my version of Christmas hospitality instead of letting them do Christmas for me.

For the first time, my oldest child was really into the idea of Santa. His excitement about getting presents was more than palatable—it was overbearing. To keep him busy the night before Christmas, we suggested that he write a note to Santa. With his best first-grade skills, he went to work. Busy with my family, I didn't notice when he sneaked out the scotch tape from the drawer. Off he went to bed before I realized what he had done. There on the mantel were a series of notes taped above the stockings. He had written a small wish for himself, placed a "David's Stocking" note in the appropriate place, and then a third note. He had decided that his brother, barely a toddler, wasn't able to write, so he penned a note to Santa himself to be sure that his little brother wasn't forgotten. We were all choked up to see that taking-care-of-others Christmas spirit coming out of this little boy. His roughly penned note said, "Dear Santa, Andy wuld like a Trane. Frum Andy to Santa." This little stocking was designed to hold Christmas wishes for those we love. Inspired by his gesture, I think I will ask each boy to make a Christmas wish for his sibling and place it in this little stocking every year!

CHRISTMAS WISHES STOCKING

Designed by Tricia Wilson Nguyen of Thistle Threads

	DMC®	Anchor®	
@	150	59	dusty rose, ul. vy. dk.
■	986	246	forest green, vy. dk.
X	166	279	moss green, med. lt.
☆	3852	306	straw, vy. dk.
.	727	293	topaz, vy. lt.
	712	926	cream

Fabric: One package #T06-01 Trinkets™ Stocking 18-count perforated paper sewing cards from Tokens and Trifles™

Stitch count: 59H x 48W

Design size: 3 3/8" x 2 3/4"

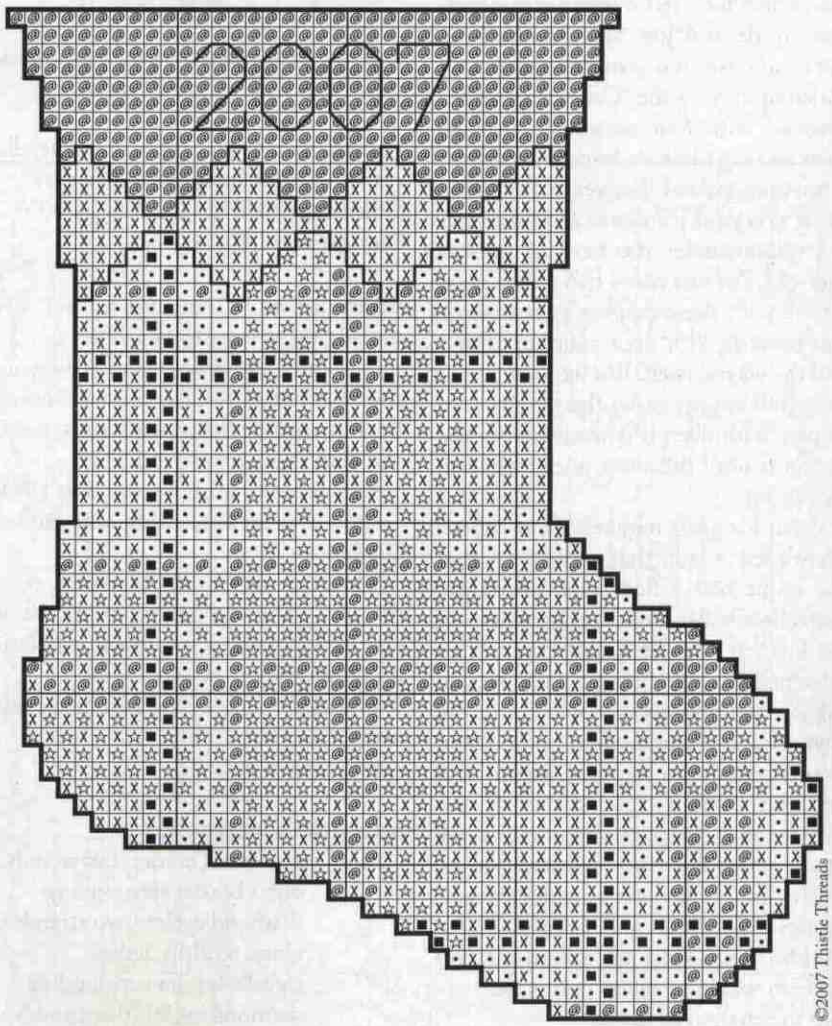
Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over one square, using two strands 712/926.

Photo is on page 10.

Finishing instructions: Using ornament as a template, cut a piece of cardstock or decorative scrapbook paper to same size. Lightly glue to wrong side of stitched piece. Twisted-cording hanger was made using DMC® 166. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 70.

Thistle Threads
6 Upland Road West
Arlington, MA 02474
e-mail: *thistlethreads@comcast.net*
Web site: *www.thistle-threads.com*



©2007 Thistle Threads

Christmas Wishes Stocking

Twisted Oaks Designs

Judith Tuttle

After all the presents are opened, sit back, relax, and enjoy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate with this wonderful Sour Cream Coffee Cake. Gather your kids or grandchildren the day before to help bake this holiday treat.

Blessings from my house to yours.

Sour Cream Coffee Cake

½ c. butter
1 c. sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. baking powder
1 c. sour cream

Topping:
1 c. chopped walnuts
2 c. brown sugar
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
2 Tbsp. butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a tube pan; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter and sugar until creamy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition; add vanilla.

In a medium bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, and baking powder. Add to butter mixture and beat until smooth. Stir in sour cream.

In a separate bowl, combine all topping ingredients.

Pour half of batter into prepared tube pan. Sprinkle half of topping mixture onto batter. Repeat with remaining batter and topping.

Bake for 1 hour, or until cake springs back to the touch.

THE SANTA IN THE MOON

Designed by Judith Tuttle
of Twisted Oaks Designs

Needlepoint Inc. Silk
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X 504 (321) Chinese red

Mill Hill® Seed Beads

○ 00479 white

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 32-count white Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 47H x 46W
Design size: 3" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 504.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a half cross stitch.

Photo is on page 16.

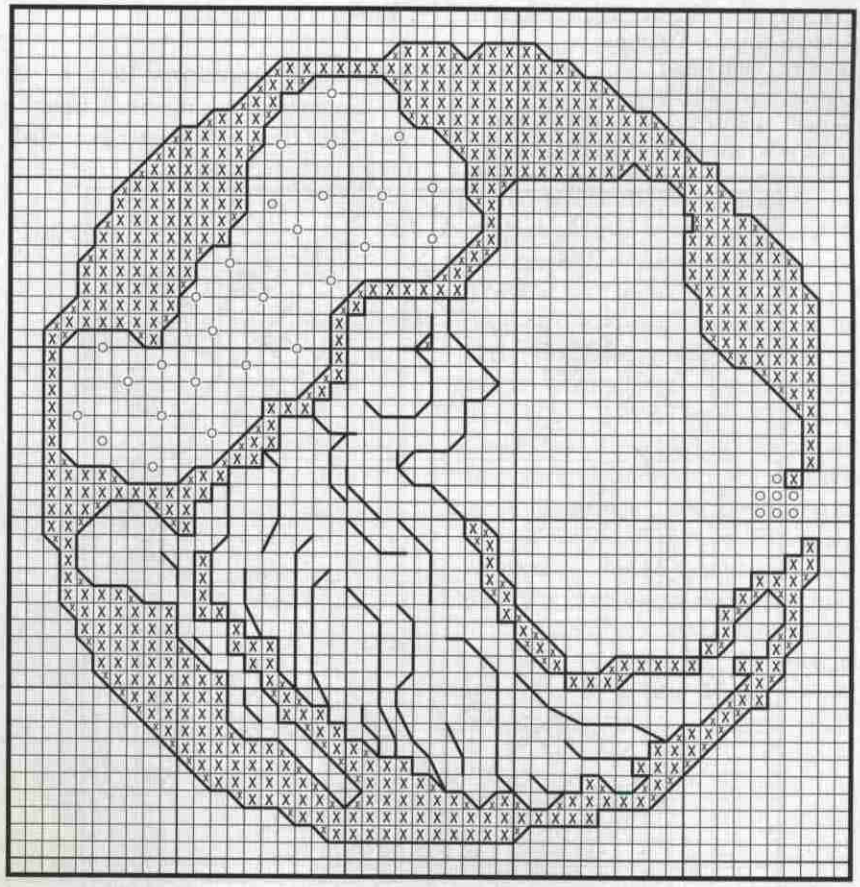
Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Trim and hanger was made using purchased pearl garland.

PILLOW-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Polyester stuffing
Fabric-marking pencil
Straight pins
Sewing machine (optional)

1. Measure desired distance (⅛"–1") from stitching on all sides and draw a line this distance from edge of design all around, staying on grain-line of fabric when possible. Do **not** cut fabric. Place ornament over a piece of backing fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together.
2. Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving an opening at bottom for turning. Trim all layers to seam allowances of ¼". Trim corners to seam allowances of ⅛".
3. Turn ornament to right side, fill with polyester stuffing, and sew opening closed.
4. Attach trim and hanger.

Twisted Oaks Designs
624 Cottonwood Drive
Moore, OK 73160-8322
e-mail: *twistedoaksdesigns@cox.net*
Web site:
www.twistedoaksdesigns.com



The Santa in the Moon

©2007 Twisted Oaks Designs

Ursula Michael Designs

Ursula Michael

Last year, my husband and I cleared some brush and installed a wood fence on our property. I spent some lovely autumn weekends at the nursery selecting bushes and plants to landscape the yard. We needed a few larger trees to fill in some bare spots. We decided to purchase two large balled "Christmas trees" to plant instead of a cut one for inside the house. My outdoor tree was decorated with popcorn balls and red ribbons. Al's tree was decorated with seeded peanut-butter balls and pinecones. To our delight, the birds enjoyed our holiday trees as much as we did, and we have a year-round memory of our Christmas gifts to each other.

Ursula Michael Designs
31 Grey Gull Road
Jamestown, RI 02835
e-mail: *ursula@ursulamichael.com*
Web site: *www.ursulamichael.com*

One for Birds

To make outdoor seeded decorations for the birds, select large pinecones, seashells or foam balls. Wrap a piece of wire or ribbon around the item and make a large hanger. Cover the items with chunky peanut butter. Roll in birdseed. Hang on a branch outside your window.

JOYFUL WREATH

Designed by Ursula Michael
of Ursula Michael Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	321	47	red
a	352	9	coral, lt.
◑	986	246	forest green, vy. dk.
X	988	243	forest green, med.

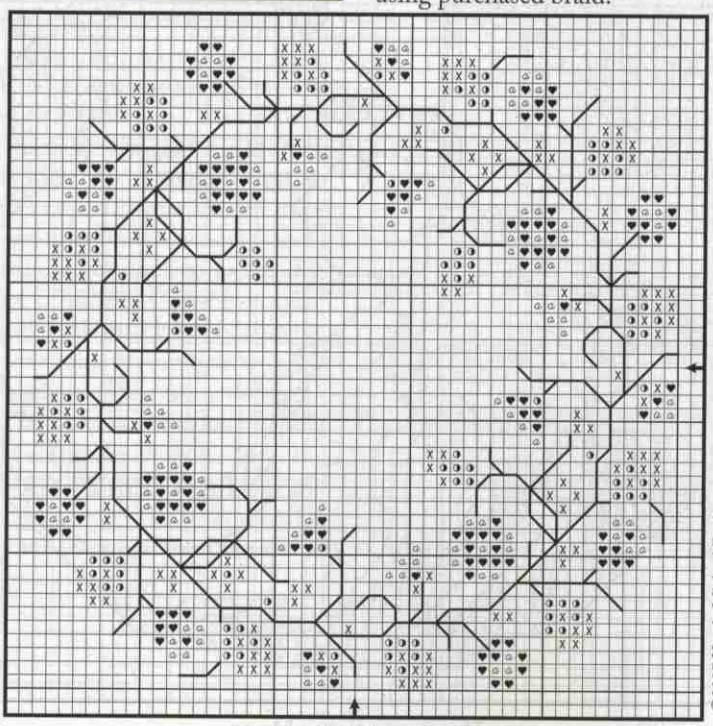
Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 28-count ivory Jazlyn from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 48H x 48W
Design size: 3 1/2" x 3 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 986/246.

Photo is on page 12.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 101. Trim and hanger was made using purchased braid.



©2007 Ursula Michael Designs

Joyful Wreath

Val's Stuff

Valerie Danish

I love to bake anytime, but especially during the holidays. The smells from the kitchen are just delightful, and this recipe is heavenly! You can also bake it in loaf pans for gift giving, and it's so delicious that it doesn't need frosting. If you really want to be decadent, you can bake it in layers and frost it with a cream cheese frosting.

I hope you enjoy adding this recipe to your collection and remember that good food and good friends are the best parts of the holiday experience! Merry Christmas!

Butterscotch Apple Cake

3/4 c. vegetable oil
2 eggs
1 1/2 c. sugar
2 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
3 c. chopped baking apples, peeled
1 c. chopped pecans
1 (6-oz.) pkg. butterscotch morsels

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 13" x 9" x 2" baking pan; set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, combine oil, eggs, and sugar; mix well.

In a separate bowl, combine flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, and cinnamon. Add to oil mixture, stirring until moistened. Stir in apples, pecans, and butterscotch morsels. (**Note:** This is a thick batter.)

Spread into prepared pan. Bake for 55–60 minutes, or until top is set. Be careful not to overbake.

A MERRY KITTY KLAUS

Designed by Valerie Danish
of Val's Stuff

Crescent Colours Hand-Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

✳ Plymouth rock	(318)
▲ pansy purple	(333)
★ sassy brass	(783)
■ bejeweled	(3808)
• magnolia blossom	(blanc)
♥ cupid	(304)
○ meadow green	(563)

DMC®	Anchor®	
@ 413	236	pewter gray, dk.
ℓ 224	893	pink, lt.

Rainbow Gallery
Wisper

☾ W88	white

Fabric: 5" x 5" piece 20-count gold and white Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 48H x 49W
Design size: 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. (**Note:** Work cross stitches with Wisper after all other cross stitching is complete. Use sticky side of a piece of cellophane tape to gently fluff Wisper thread when complete.)

Work running stitch over one thread for corners of border, using one strand pansy purple.

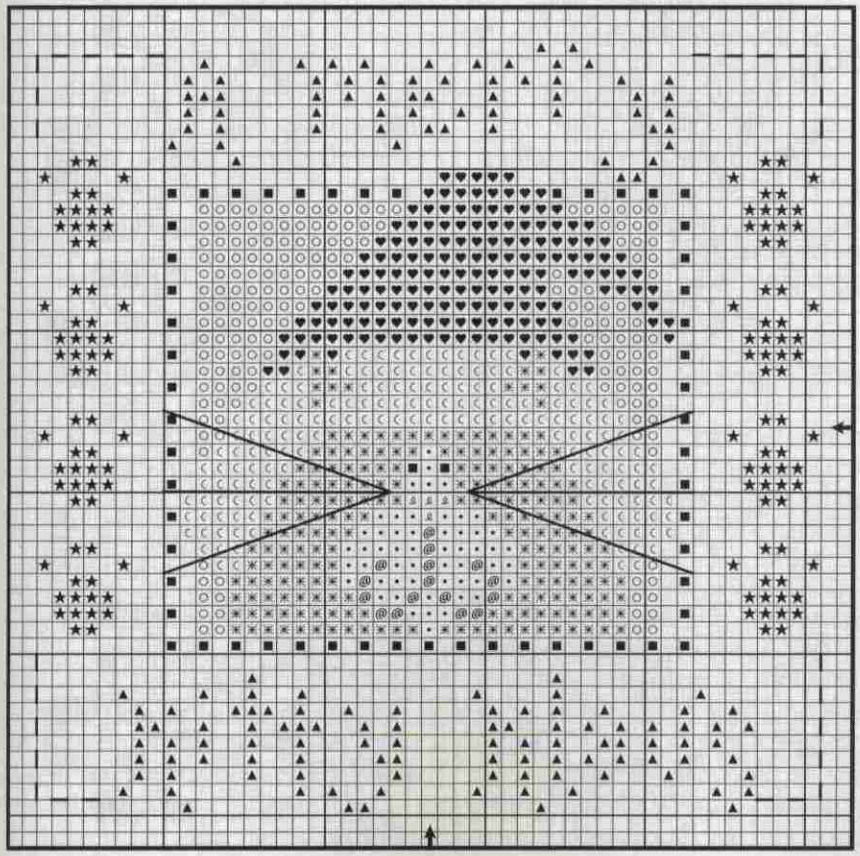
Work straight stitch for whiskers, using one strand magnolia blossom.

Add a 6mm gold jingle bell to tip of hat, if desired.

Photo is on page 24.

Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording trim was purchased.

Val's Stuff
106 Cobblestone Hills
O'Fallon, IL 62269
e-mail: *valsstuff@wisperhome.com*
Web site: *members.papadocs.com/valsstuff/*



©2007 Val's Stuff

A Merry Kitty Klaus

The Victoria Sampler

Thea Dueck

My 2007 ornament reminds me of all the sweet and sinful goodies my mom always baked at Christmastime. She usually served her baking on white lacy doilies on her best gold china, and my brother and I could hardly wait to get home after Midnight Mass to tuck into our special midnight feast of Dutch cheese, rye breads, and fresh breads. Afterwards, we could have some of those golden spicy cookies. Now that I'm following a different food plan due to health concerns, I feel it's important to find substitutes for the delectable foods I once used to love. It makes me feel like I, too, can celebrate along with everyone else!

Here is a low glycemic recipe for my stitching friends who are looking to lower their blood sugar. Substitute regular wheat flour for the soy and chick pea flour, or sugar for the Splenda® if you like! These lovely moist muffins contain no wheat, dairy, or sugar, and have become my favorite (and only) treats. Even if you don't need to worry about your glycemic index, try them, they're great! I hope that those of you who are on a special food plan enjoy making and eating these during those special holiday times. Leave out or substitute some of the spices if you don't like them. The pumpkin is optional for Christmas, so leave it out if you like!

Christmas Cinnamon Pumpkin Muffins

2 c. soy flour
1 c. chick pea flour
1 c. flax meal
1/2 c. oat bran
1/2 c. oatmeal
4 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. sea salt
1/2 c. Splenda®
1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
1/2 tsp. ground all spice
1/2 c. sesame seeds
1/2 c. pine nuts (or sunflower seeds, chopped walnuts, or almonds)
2–3 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. ground cardamom
1/2 tsp. ground ginger
5 eggs, beaten
2 c. pineapple juice (or 1 c. juice plus 1 c. crushed pineapple with juice)
2 apples, grated (or replace with mashed bananas)
1 c. grated carrot
1 c. cooked pumpkin or pumpkin puree in can (optional)
3/4 c. vegetable oil
3 tsp. vanilla extract
3/4 c. raisins with boiling water to cover (let stand for 5 minutes before adding)

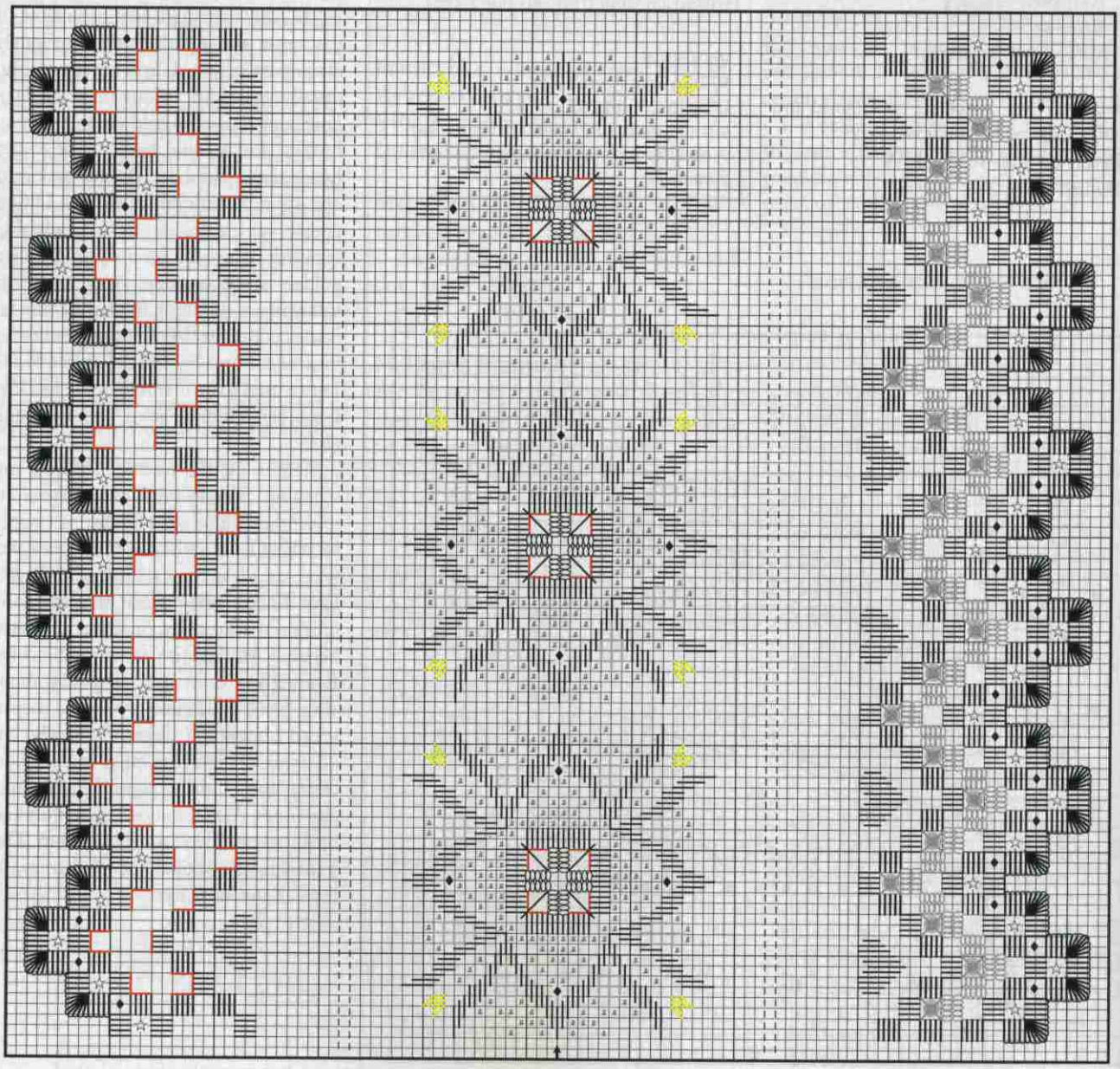
Preheat oven to 350°. Grease or line muffin pans with 30 paper liners.

In a large bowl, combine all dry ingredients. In a separate bowl, combine all wet ingredients, including fruits.

Pour wet ingredients into dry. Mix gently until moistened. Immediately pour into prepared muffin cups. Bake for 25 minutes.

Makes 30 muffins.

Note: Left portion of chart below indicates areas where fabric threads are to be cut and withdrawn, right portion of chart shows placement of woven bars and spider wheels after fabric threads have been withdrawn.



Sugar and Lace Ornament

SUGAR AND LACE ORNAMENT

Designed by Thea Dueck
of The Victoria Sampler

Access Commodities Trebizond
132 ecru

Access Commodities Soie Perlee
ℓ cream cream

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #12
ecru 387 ecru

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4
002HL gold, hi lustre

Kreinik® Silk Mori® Milkpaint™ Threads
0733 cornmeal, lt.

Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads
◆ 00557 old gold

Fabric: 11" x 11" piece 28-count willow green Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 68H x 102W
Design size: $6\frac{7}{8}$" x $7\frac{1}{3}$"

Instructions: Work three center medallions before working Hardanger lace sections.

Center medallions—Work horizontal and vertical satin stitch where heavy lines appear on chart, using one strand 132. Work diagonal satin stitch where yellow lines appear on chart, using one strand very fine braid.

Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand Soie Perlee.

Work four-sided stitch over two threads where heavy gray lines appear between cross and satin stitches in center motifs, using one strand pearl cotton #12 and pulling each leg of stitch firmly.

Using small, sharp scissors, carefully cut and remove fabric threads where red lines appear in center of medallions. Using one strand very fine braid, work woven bars over vertical threads, weaving from top to bottom. Work woven bars over horizontal threads, weaving from left to right. When first horizontal bar is completed and center square is reached, lay and wrap four diagonal threads, referring to illustration on page 117. Weave remaining horizontal bar.

Attach beads, using one strand 0733 and a half cross stitch, sewing through bead twice to ensure stability.

Hardanger Lace—Work Kloster blocks over four threads, using one strand 132.

Work blanket stitch for edges of lace, using one strand Soie Perlee.

Work Algerian-eye stitch over four threads where ☆ appears on chart, using one strand pearl cotton #12 and pulling each leg tightly to open a hole in center of stitch.

Work satin stitch for heart motifs between center medallions and Hardanger lace, using one strand very fine braid.

Carefully cut and remove threads where red lines appear in Hardanger lace. Referring to illustrations on this page, work woven bars and spider wheels, using one strand coton perle #12. (**Note:** At least three sides of the square must be finished with either Kloster blocks or woven bars before working the spider wheel.)

Attach beads, using one strand 0733 and a half cross stitch, sewing through bead twice to ensure stability.

Trim away excess fabric beyond blanket stitches, taking care not to cut into stitches.

Photo is on page 28.

Finishing materials and instructions:

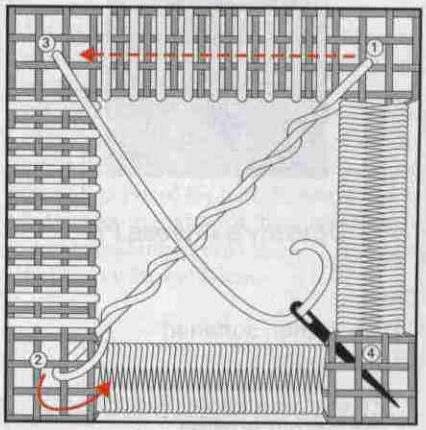
Three $\frac{3}{4}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" pieces lining fabric
$7\frac{1}{2}$" x 2" piece fusible interfacing
Two 18" lengths $\frac{1}{8}$"-width satin ribbon
Polyester fiberfill

Trim seam allowance at top and bottom of stitched piece to $\frac{1}{4}$". With sewing machine, zig-zag raw edges to prevent unravelling of fabric. From satin-stitch points of center medallions, count out eight fabric threads; remove the next next four vertical fabric threads (indicated by dashed lines on chart) to accommodate ribbon.

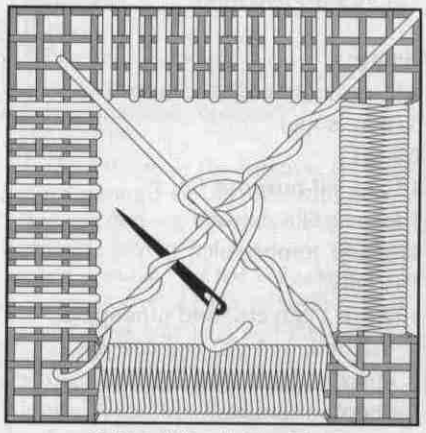
Place stitched piece right-side down on ironing board. Position squares of lining fabric right-side down over wrong sides of center medallions. Place interfacing against wrong side of stitched piece, taking care not to shift squares of lining fabric. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse interfacing to stitched piece.

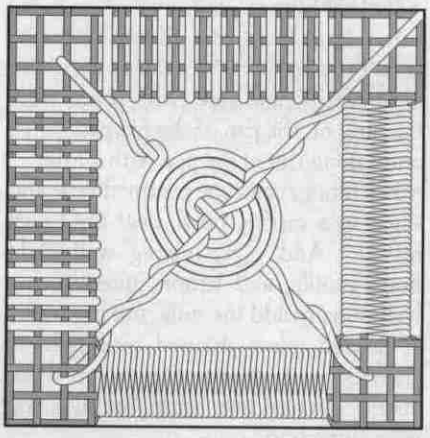
With right sides together, baste raw edges of stitched piece together. After checking to ensure that kloster blocks and blanket stitches align properly, sew together using a $\frac{1}{4}$" seam allowance. Remove basting threads and turn right-side out.

Thread a length of ribbon through one withdrawn-thread opening. Pull ends of ribbon to gather fabric together and tie a bow to secure gathers in place. Stuff ornament with fiberfill before repeating process with remaining length of ribbon.



Spider Wheel: Step One


Spider Wheel: Step Two


Spider Wheel: Completed

The Victoria Sampler
8700 Aldous Terrace
Sidney, BC V8L 1L2
Canada
e-mail: *thea@victoriasampler.com*
Web site: *www.victoriasampler.com*

Water's Edge

Bobbie Marek

Dorothy's Cheese Pie

Crust:
4 Tbsp. butter, softened
5 Tbsp. sugar
1 egg
½ tsp. baking powder
1 c. all-purpose flour

Filling:
1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese
5 Tbsp. sugar
2 eggs
1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1½ Tbsp. lemon juice
1 c. milk
1 (20-oz.) can crushed pineapple, drained, or 1 (20-oz.) can pie cherries (optional)
Cinnamon to taste

Preheat oven to 300°.

In a large bowl, mix all crust ingredients. Press into one 8" pie pan. Press flat onto bottom and sides with some overhanging on the rim of the pie pan. Prick crust along rim of pie pan with a fork.

For filling, combine cream cheese and sugar in a mixing bowl; beat until well mixed. Add eggs, mixing well. Add flour, vanilla, and lemon juice, mixing well. Finally, add the milk, mixing well. If desired, place drained pineapple or cherries in bottom of piecrust. Pour cheese mixture over fruit. Sprinkle top with cinnamon.

Bake for 1 hour.

Water's Edge
1101 Lee Lane
Fincastle, VA 24090
e-mail: *waters_edge@ntelos.net*
Web site:
www.watersedgecrossstitch.com

SANTA AND RUDOLPH

Designed by Bobbie Marek of Water's Edge

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	310	403	black
‹	321	47	Christmas red
★	400	351	mahogany, dk.
¥	434	310	brown, lt.
♭	436	363	tan
@	498	1005	Christmas red, dk.
(	739	366	tan, ul. vy. lt.
♥	814	45	garnet, dk.
◆	826	161	blue, med.
ℓ	950	4156	desert sand, lt.
△	3023	899	brown gray, lt.
○	3326	36	rose, lt.
✳	3773	1008	desert sand, med.
.	B5200	1	snow white
	3858	897	rosewood, med.

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 28-count summer khaki Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 52H x 50W
Design size: 3¾" x 3⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

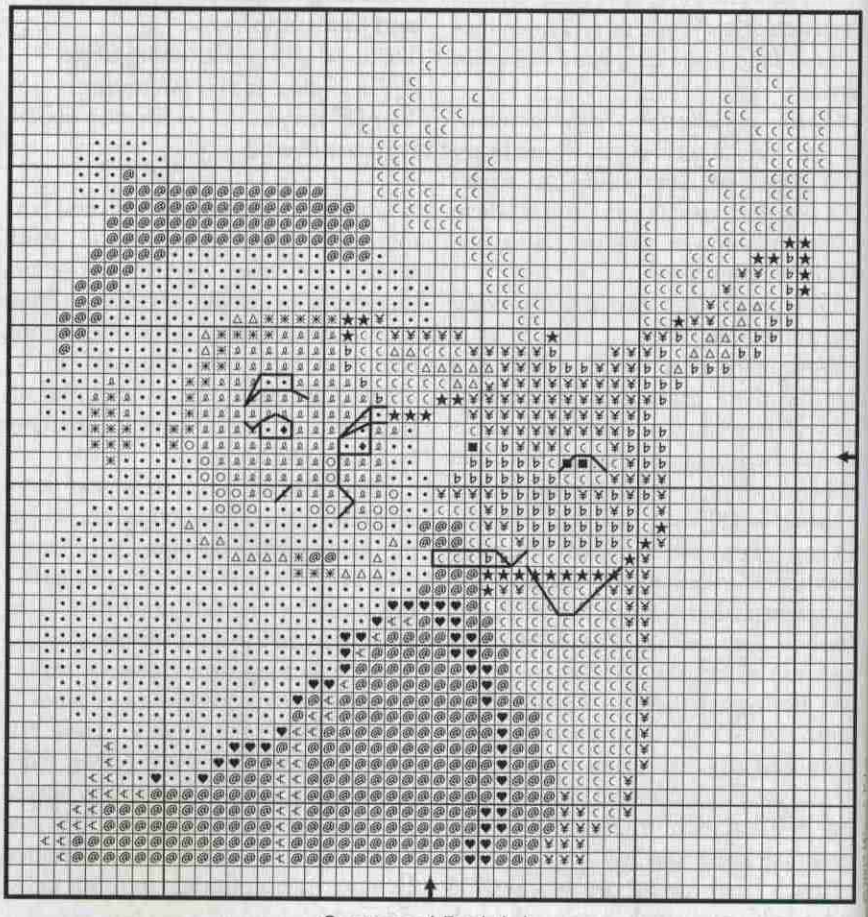
If desired, embellish Rudolph's collar with a 6mm gold jingle bell.

Photo is on page 17.

Backstitch Instructions:

310	403	Santa's eyelashes, Rudolph's eyelash
400	351	Rudolph's collar
498	1005	Rudolph's reins
3858	897	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament finishing instructions on page 107. Twisted-cording trim was purchased. Model was embellished, using a small white pom pom for Santa's hat and a small metallic red pom pom for Rudolph's nose.



Santa and Rudolph

Wee Works

Wendy White

The approach of the Christmas holidays can be stressful with all the things that need to be done and all the things we want to do. Shopping, cooking, baking, wrapping, decorating, and the inevitable costume for a Christmas pageant can become a list of epic proportion. So when someone helps us out or pitches in, we often say, "You're an angel" in an effort to thank them for their assistance. This year, why not make a few of these quick-to-stitch darlings and gift your "angels" with one for their very own. By working in stages, you can have a heavenly choir in a short time. Begin by doing all the gold cross stitches first for all the angels you want to stitch, then just fill with the sparkling white in a half-cross stitch. Try using the favorite color of the recipient to make it even more personal.

Have a joyful and happy holiday and remember, "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets its wings!"

GOLDEN ANGEL

Designed by Wendy White of Wee Works

Kreinik® Very Fine Braid #4

★	002J	Japan gold
.	032	pearl

Fabric: One package (#DTM1PC) Confection 20-count sewing cards from Tokens and Trifles™

Stitch count: 53H x 39W

Design size: 2⅔" x 2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using one strand very fine braid and a #28 tapestry needle or #10 beading needle.

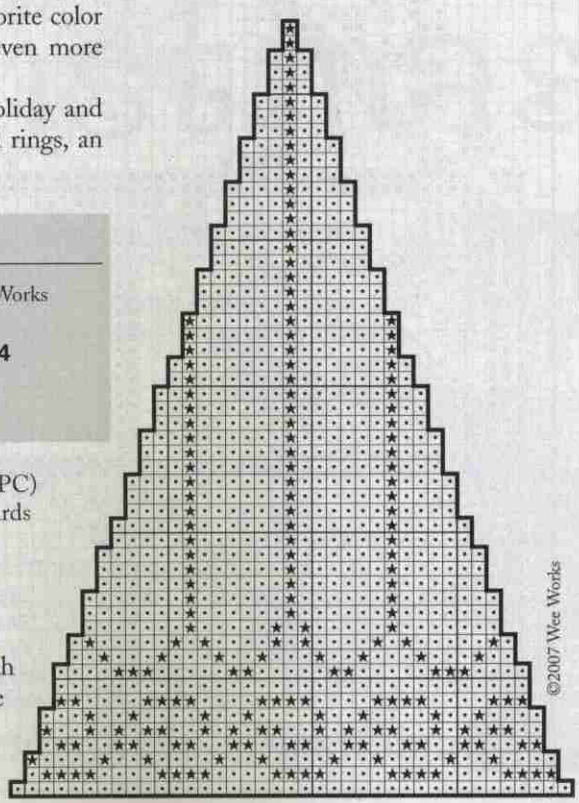
Photo is on page 26.

Finishing materials and instructions:

One spool Kreinik® 002J gold ⅛" ribbon
One angel head (#7192) from Victorian Scrapworks
One pair Dresden trim large angel wings (#DT8711) from Victorian Scrapworks
Gold Dresden trim (#DT7224) from Victorian Scrapworks
Glue
Gold foil or wrapping paper

Make a hanger loop from Kreinik® 6230 gold ribbon and attach to top of sewing card, securing through top hole of sewing card. Cut gold foil into a triangle to cover back of sewing card. Cut wings apart; attach wings to back of sewing card, using a small dab of glue. Attach head and trim to front of sewing card, using a small dab of glue and referring to photo for placement.

Wee Works
1 Greenfield Drive
Sandwich, MA 02563
e-mail: *weworks@mindspring.com*



©2007 Wee Works

Golden Angel

ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Self-adhesive padded mounting board
Hot-glue gun or craft glue (optional)

1. Cut two pieces of mounting board to desired ornament size (⅛"–1" larger than stitching).
2. Center stitched ornament on one piece of mounting board, following manufacturer's instructions. Repeat on other piece of mounting board for backing fabric.
3. With wrong sides together, blind stitch or glue backing to ornament.
4. Attach trim and hanger.

FLAT-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Padded mounting board
Fabric-marking pencil
Straight pins
Sewing machine (optional)

1. Measure desired distance (⅛"–1") from stitching on all sides and draw a line this distance from edge of design all around, staying on grain-line of fabric when possible. Do **not** cut fabric. Place ornament over a piece of backing fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together along edge of stitching.
2. Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving bottom of ornament open. Trim layers to seam allowances of ¼". Trim corners to seam allowances of ⅛". Turn ornament to right side.
3. Using ornament as a pattern, cut mounting board. Insert mounting board into ornament and sew opening closed.
4. Attach trim and hanger.

The Workbasket

Candy Scott
and Mary Olsen

These are just wonderful because you can make the dough days ahead of Christmas morning. While Santa is finishing last minute details and the stockings are being devoured, you can roll these out and let them rise. Stick them in the oven, and they will be ready in time for a traditional Christmas breakfast.

Scott Family Sweet Rolls

2 c. boiling water
6 Tbsp. Crisco®
1 Tbsp. salt
1/3 c. sugar plus 1 tsp. sugar, divided
2 (.25-oz.) pkgs. yeast
1/4 c. lukewarm water
2 eggs, slightly beaten
8 c. all-purpose flour
1/4 c. melted butter
1/2 c. brown sugar
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 c. raisins

In a medium bowl, combine boiling water, Crisco, salt, and 1/3 cup sugar. Stir and let cool.

In a separate bowl, stir together yeast, lukewarm water, and 1 tsp. sugar. Allow yeast and sugar to dissolve for 10 minutes. Stir yeast mixture into Crisco mixture. Add eggs. Stir in flour until well blended. (**Note:** You may need more or less flour to make the dough.)

Chill for at least 2 hours or up to 3 days.

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease two baking sheets.

In a medium bowl, combine melted butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, and raisins.

Divide dough in half and roll out. Spread filling over dough. Shape into a log; cut into 3/4"–1" slices. Place slices on prepared baking sheets. Allow to rise for 30 minutes.

Bake for 15–20 minutes.

CHRISTMAS HOUSE

Designed by Mary Olson and Candy Scott of The Workbasket

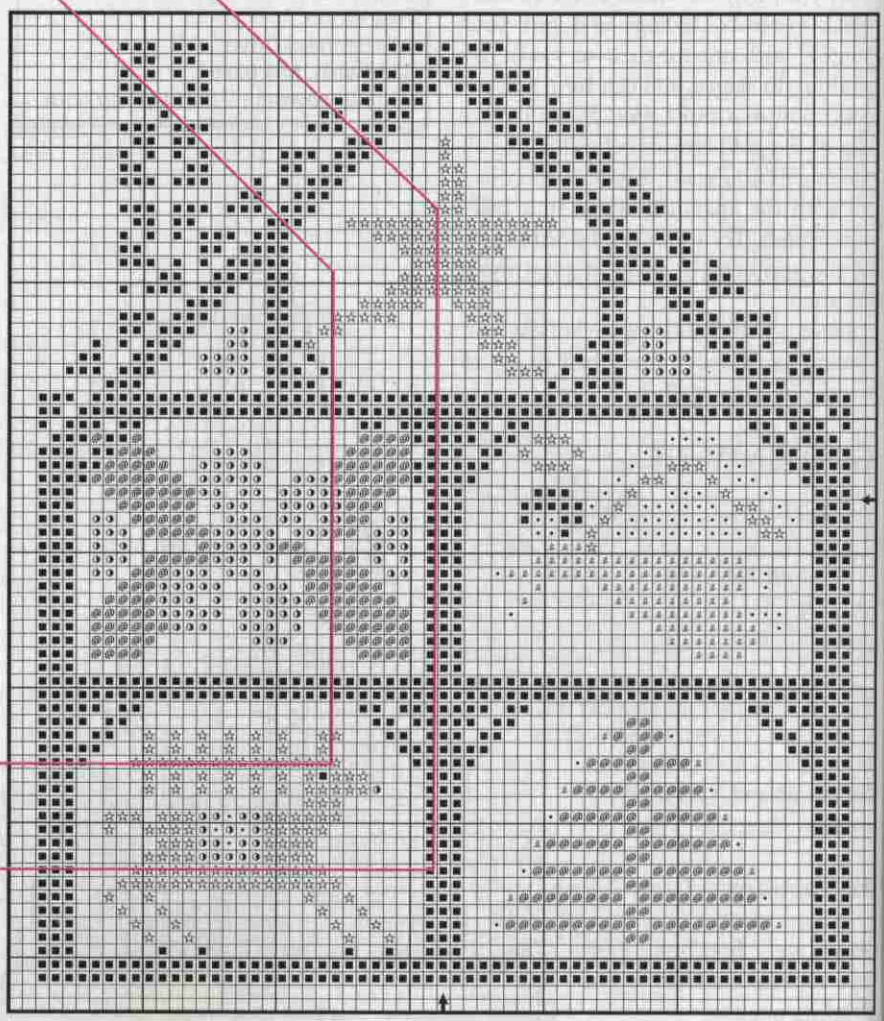
Crescent Colours Cotton Floss
- ■ bramble bush
- ☆ sassy brassy
- @ erin go emerald
- ◑ razzleberry
- ℓ purple aster
- . toasted marshmallow

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 36-count maple sugar linen from Lakeside Linens
Stitch count: 70H x 61W
Design size: 4" x 3 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.
Photo is on page 14.

Finishing instructions: Using large template on this page, cut two pieces of dark red felt. Using inner template, trim away center portion of felt on one piece only; this piece becomes the "frame" for stitched piece. Center frame on stitched piece, right-sides-up, and sew together 1/8" from inside edge. Trim away excess linen on wrong side. Pin framed stitched piece, wrong-side down, to remaining piece of felt. Insert ends of hanger between layers at top of ornament. Model hanger made using purchased cording. Sew along previously stitched line to join front and back together, leaving a small opening at bottom. Remove pins. Stuff lightly with polyester fiberfill and sew opening shut.

The Workbasket
PMB #389
303 South Broadway, Suite B
Denver, CO 80209
e-mail: *workbasket@juno.com*
Web site: *www.theworkbasket.net*



Christmas House